

THE TIMES Tomorrow

Man appeal
The hard-sell campaign to promote male interest magazines
In the picture
Profile of the prize painter Malcolm Morley
In and out of step



John Percival on Nureyev's mixed reception as ballet director at the Paris Opéra

Cold turkey
Full report of England's World Cup qualifier in Istanbul

Portfolio

The Times Portfolio competition prize was shared by two winners yesterday. Mrs Audrey Richardson of Cherry Hinton, Cambridge, and Mr Gerard Brooks of Abingdon, Berks, each received £1,000. Portfolio list, page 16. How to play, information service, back page.

January sale for EEC butter

More than 156 million packets of UK-produced butter are to go on sale at a maximum price of 42p for 259 gram pack from January 14. Mr Michael Jopling, the Minister of Agriculture, said the sale had been delayed because retailers had complained that a Christmas sale would be "highly disruptive".

Newspaper bingo 'legal'

Newspaper bingo games are not illegal, Lord Cameron, the Scottish Lord Advocate, and Mr Peter Fraser, Scotland's solicitor-general, told Labour MPs campaigning for the games to be curbed. Mr George Foulkes, MP for Carrick, Cumnock and Doon Valley, said later the law officers believed such games were legal in England as well because participation was free.

Bomb victim

Mrs Muriel Maclean, who was injured in the IRA bombing at the Grand Hotel, Brighton, died in the Royal Sussex Hospital last night, bringing to five the bomb's death toll.

Sunday trading

The Home Office is expected to publish the official report into Sunday trading next week, and legislation is thought likely in the next session of Parliament. Page 3

Arts prize

A painting competition with a £25,000 prize has been launched by the Athena poster company. It will be Britain's most lucrative arts prize. Page 2

Sharon sues

A \$50m libel suit brought against Time magazine by Mr Ariel Sharon, the former Israeli Defence Minister, opened in New York. Page 5

Tavaré unhappy

Chris Tavaré, the former England batsman, has asked to be released from his contract with Kent after being replaced as captain by Chris Cowdrey. Page 27

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Letters: On women priests, from Lord Coggan, and others; council cuts, from Mr R. Parker Jervis
Leading articles: Miners' chemical warfare; water authorities
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Mr Chester Himes, Professor Stanley Beaver
Finland: A six-page Special Report on the occasion of President Koivisto's visit to Britain. Pages 21-26

TUC chief attacks violence of 'brick and bolt'

● Violence on the miners' picket lines, "from whatever quarter", the strikers of the police, was condemned last night by Mr Norman Willis, TUC general secretary.
● More than 5,000 strikers have returned to work in the past 10 days and yesterday's 920 new faces was double the previous record for a Tuesday (page 2).

● The Roman Catholic bishops of England and Wales have deplored the instability and violence caused by the dispute and urged a return to negotiations (page 2)
● Two miners who have been on strike for eight months spoke of their reasons for returning to work (Back page)

By Paul Routledge, Labour Editor

The violence of "the brick, the bolt, and the petrol bomb" on striking miners' picket lines was condemned last night by Mr Norman Willis, general secretary of the TUC. Speaking at a National Union of Mineworkers strike rally in Aberavon, West Glamorgan, he appealed to other groups of workers to back the pitmen so that the dispute could be resolved "quickly and satisfactorily", and added: "There is no other way, and certainly violence is not the way."

He delivered his criticism at the end of a second day of violence in the Yorkshire coalfield, which resulted in injuries to more than 40 police officers involved in running street battles with pickets at Frickley colliery, South Elmsall. Four barricades were built across the main access road to the pit, confirming police fears of a militant new tactics to blockade mines where men try to break the strike.

But despite increasing tension in the coalfield, 211 Yorkshire miners defied the pickets and went back to work yesterday, and across the country 920 "new faces" reported back to the pits, bringing the total number of workers returning since November 5 to 5,111.

Mr Willis told the striking miners: "The TUC has condemned all violence from whatever quarter it comes. We condemn police violence. There have been scenes of unprovoked police aggression which are utterly alien to the British tradition of policing by consent. "And it is hypocritical in the extreme for ministers to ignore the evidence of police wrongdoing while extracting maximum propaganda value out of their

version of the ugly picket line clashes.

"I could leave it there, but I will not; for I have to say that any miner too, who resorts to violence, wounds the miners' case far more than they damage their opponents' resolve."

"Violence creates more violence and out of that is built not solidarity but despair and defeat. I have marched proudly before many miners' banners, and I know there will never be one that praises the brick, the bolt, or the petrol bomb."

"Such acts, if they are done by miners, are alien to our common trade union tradition, however, not just because they are counter-productive but because they are wrong. But what is right and what is true is that only an agreement, reached between your union and the National Coal Board can resolve this dispute."

Accusing government ministers and the coal board of "foolishly and irresponsibly pinning all their hopes on driving enough desperate men back to work", Mr Willis said: "We need a surge back to negotiations, not a drift back to work."

In an interview with *The Times*, however, Mr Michael Eaton, chief spokesman for the board, said: "The ball is now in the NUM's court. Asked if the coal board expected any further negotiations, he answered: "Of our own volition, none."

In a strongly worded reaffirmation of the board's bargaining position that negotiations have ended, Mr Eaton added: "If there is going to be any further discussions it has to start with the NUM coming to us and saying: 'We are going to change our position to that we held on March 6'."

"There is one thing we can never agree to: we cannot afford to mine coal to the total exhaustion of every colliery."

Mr Eaton, chairman of the board's North Yorkshire area, also confirmed that the board would not go beyond the revamped colliery review procedure already accepted by the pit deputies' union, Nacods.

"We have said we will give 'due weight' to third-party contemplation of what we are running up against. There is nothing fairer than that. I cannot think of anything that could stand instead of that."

"There is no other form of words that could be engineered, because we cannot give up our right to manage the industry."

His comments clearly indicate that the TUC's hopes of a "meaningful and intelligent response from the coal board" are vain, and that Mr Willis's fears of a strike lasting many more weeks will be realized.

Senior board managers expect privately at least 8,000 miners to have returned to work by next Monday, the deadline for qualifying for Christmas bonuses. But that will leave well over 110,000 pitmen on strike.

Mr Eaton is already working on a relaunch of the "back to work" campaign, aimed at holding the impetus that has built up over the past 10 days since the collapse of the latest negotiations between the NUM, and the board.

Austin Rover drops appeal over strike

By David Felton and Clifford Webb

Austin Rover decided last night not to press its appeal against a judge's refusal to grant an injunction ordering the engineering union to hold a ballot on the 10-day-old strike at the company's plants and instead settled for an agreed statement reached during a two hour private High Court sitting. Sir John Donaldson, Master of the Rolls, had indicated to the company's lawyers, before the private session, that he did not want "you to dig a grave for yourself" by ordering the Amalgamated Union of Engineering Workers to instruct their 7,000 members at Austin Rovers to return to work.

The appeal hearing did not resolve the main issue, because of the company's decision not to proceed, and union leaders were last night predicting that more will now follow the AUEW example of repudiating the strike in order to avoid having their funds put at risk under the 1984 Trade Union Act. Company lawyers had argued that the union ought to instruct its members to call off the strike. The judges' decision, given by Sir John, said: "It seems to us in the circumstances as they now exist, there is no need for injunction. The union opposes the strike."

The appeal was made against the refusal of Mr Justice Stannard to grant an injunction to the company ordering the AUEW to call off the strike pending a ballot of its members at Austin Rover. The action against the electricians' union was left on the table because the union had instructed its members to return to work.



Sir John Donaldson: No need for injunction.

lines at its Longbridge and Cowley assembly plants to handle calls which it said, were flooding in from workers who want to return.

Last night Austin Rover said: "There is mounting evidence to suggest that the strike is crumbling. Yesterday another 1,000 workers voted to return making nearly 10,000 in all."

Electricians to accept ballot cash

By David Felton Labour Correspondent

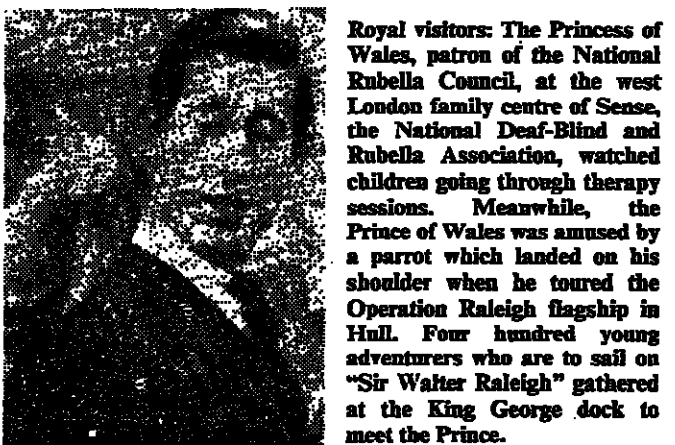
The right-wing leadership of the electricians' union yesterday became the first to break ranks with the TUC's opposition to accepting government money for postal ballots and opened the way for acrimonious argument with labour legislation.

Defiance of the TUC policy, agreed at an executive meeting of the Electrical, Electronic, Telecommunication and Plumbing Union, prompted an attempt at a later meeting of the country's second largest union to follow suit, but moderates were unable to win the necessary majority.

The Amalgamated Union of Engineering Workers' executive voted by 54 to put the question of taking government funds for balloting to a ballot of its one million members but on issues requiring a change of policy at least six votes are required. The executive member missing from yesterday's meeting could be expected to oppose taking state funds.

A decision by the electricians' union to accept government money had been expected in the union movement, although it was unclear last night whether there would be attempts to discipline the union.

Mr Tom King, Secretary of State for Employment, welcomed the union's decision. "I have no doubt that other unions will see the wisdom of ensuring that they have full democratic methods of elections in place before the electoral provisions of the Trade Union Act come into force next year."



Royal visitors: The Princess of Wales, patron of the National Rubella Council, at the west London family centre of Sense, the National Deaf-Blind and Rubella Association, watched children going through therapy sessions. Meanwhile, the Prince of Wales was amused by a parrot which landed on his shoulder when he toured the Operation Raleigh flagship in Hull. Four hundred young adventurers who are to sail on "Sir Walter Raleigh" gathered at the King George dock to meet the Prince.

Hope of £1 reprieve dashed by Thatcher

By Robin Young

While small shopkeepers, back-bench MPs, consumer spokesmen and old people's organizations competed yesterday to express their outrage at the abolition of the £1 note, the Prime Minister in the Commons effectively dashed all hopes of any further stay of execution.

There were cheers from both sides of the House of Commons when Mr Norman St John Stevas told the Prime Minister: "If you save us from the imposition of the most unpopular coin in our history, you will have the support of the entire country."

But Mrs Thatcher, who last December surprised Treasury officials by supporting the continuation of the £1 note, said: "I do not think I can offer you very much hope."

The £3m to be saved by not issuing any further £1 notes

could be better used elsewhere, she said. By the end of next year, when it is due to be withdrawn, the £1 note would have lasted "two years longer than would otherwise have been the case."

The Chancellor of the Exchequer's announcement on Monday that the paper pound must go was the culmination of a long campaign from within the Treasury to be rid of a note which since 1976 has had lower real value than the 10 shilling note when it was abolished in 1970.

A clinching argument appears to have been that public acceptance of the £1 coin would be artificially delayed if the more familiar £1 note was retained.

To the disappointment of cost-conscious officialdom the public continued obstinately to prefer torn, tatty notes.

Today, he will lunch with the Queen at Buckingham Palace and visit *The Times*.

Geoffrey Smith, photograph, page 7

Koivisto to lunch with Queen

President Koivisto of Finland and his wife arrived in Britain yesterday for a four-day official visit (Henry Stanhope writes).

Mrs Margaret Thatcher and Sir Geoffrey Howe, the Foreign Secretary who joined in an hour of talks at Number 10 last night, were hoping for an assessment of East-West relations from the Finnish head of state, whose meetings with President Reagan and President Chernomerkov over the past year have reflected his country's position of careful neutrality.

Today, he will lunch with the Queen at Buckingham Palace and visit *The Times*.

Geoffrey Smith, photograph, page 7

Report, page 3

Pym in clash over job policy

By Anthony Bevins Political Correspondent

Mr Francis Pym, the former Foreign Secretary, said last night that unemployment would continue to rise under the Government's present policies.

He said in the final day of the Commons debate on the Queen's Speech that Ministers had expressed deep concern about the levels of unemployment. "But the Government action and its response is not commensurate with that concern," he said.

In a dramatic intervention, Mr John Biffen, Leader of the Commons, challenged his former Cabinet colleague to say whether he would spend any Treasury surplus on tax cuts or employment projects. Mr Pym replied sharply: "It would be right to use it for the benefit of the unemployed."

Mr Pym said: "I do not think the Government has yet measured up to the scale of the changes that are taking place."

Ministers had stuck "with notable rigidity" to economic policies prepared for the 1970s - policies which had not worked - and Mr Pym said: "I believe from the outset, right from the autumn of 1979, the Government has misjudged unemployment consistently."

"I think it will go on rising under present policies. I cannot find any businessman who does not think it will go on rising in present circumstances."

Opening the debate, Mr Roy Hattersley, the shadow Chancellor, said that the conscience of the country was being stirred by high, prolonged and intentional unemployment, and the time would come when the Prime Minister would be forced to change her tone. She would then be too late and she would not be forgiven.

Mr Nigel Lawson, the Chancellor, said that it was the Government's policy to create an enterprise economy which would produce prosperity and employment. "The strategy is on course and the policy will succeed," he said.

But Mr James Callaghan, the former Prime Minister, put the view later echoed by Mr Pym. He said that unemployment was a cancer and he feared it would continue to rise.

Parliament, page 4

India poll date set for next month

From Michael Hamlyn Delhi

Mr Rajiv Gandhi, the new Prime Minister of India, will face the electorate before the end of the year and capitalize on the glow of support felt for him and his party after his mother's assassination.

It was announced yesterday that the general election will be on December 24. A second day of polling for those states unable to provide facilities for all their voters at once will be December 27. Counting will begin on December 28.

The announcement was made by the chief election commissioner, Mr Rama Krishna Trivedi, in his headquarters not far from the Parliament building where the new Lok Sabha will meet on or after January 20, the expiry of the term of the present house. Mr Trivedi said elections would be postponed in Punjab and Assam.

"Until September, we had been feeling that it may be possible to have polls in Punjab also," he said, "but recent unfortunate happenings have somehow changed the situation."

Of the 542 parliamentary constituencies, there will be no polling in 27 (14 from Assam, and 13 from Punjab). The absence of the 27 MPs is likely to hurt the Congress (I) party more than its rivals since it could expect to win more seats in both states.

The starting gun for the election will be fired officially next Tuesday, when notification will be given, but campaigning will begin immediately. "Electoralising began the day Mrs Gandhi died," Mr Bhim Singh, leader of the Jammu and Kashmir Panthers party, said. It is true that many of the events since, in particular flying urns of Mrs Gandhi's ashes round the country could have been designed to enhance the sympathy vote for Congress.

Simultaneous state elections will be held in Manipur, Arunachal Pradesh and the Union territory of Goa, Daman and Diu. Elections will also be held in the capital of Punjab, Chandigarh, which, because it is shared with neighbouring Haryana, is not part of either, but a Union territory itself. Wave of sympathy, page 7

Governor calls in Owen

By Peter Wilson-Smith, Banking Correspondent

The controversy over Johnathon Marthey, who was yesterday when it emerged that Mr Robin Leigh-Pemberton, Governor of the Bank of England, had written to Dr David Owen, SDP leader, offering him a private, off-the-record discussion.

The offer was made in a confidential letter sent last week and appears to be an attempt by

the Bank of England to defuse the political row over JMB.

The Bank had to rescue JMB last month after likely losses, now put at between £170m to £250m, came to light on its loans to commercial customers.

Dr Owen has criticized many aspects surrounding JMB's near collapse and the subsequent rescue.

Kenneth Fleet, page 17

NO NEED TO LET US INFLUENCE YOU

Did you see the six-page special report on Swindon in last Friday's Financial Times? If not, we'll be happy to send you a copy.

And if you like, we'll also enclose our Fact File and offer you the same help and advice which convinced, amongst others, Plessey, Logica, Blick International, THORN EMI, National Semiconductors, and Intel.

However, you might prefer to judge Swindon for yourself. Contact Douglas Smith, Industrial Adviser, Civic Offices, Swindon. Or ring Freephone Swindon Enterprise.

JOIN THE SWINDON ENTERPRISE

Wit and wisdom for Supermac's second debut

By Julian Haviland Political Editor

So the reports and anecdotes from Balliol and the Carlton Club, and from privileged visitors to Birch Grove, were all true. The sorcerer, as Lord Gower called him yesterday, had lost none of his art or wit, and none of his political astuteness.

Aged ninety and a bit, Harold Macmillan, First Earl of Stockton, yesterday spoke in the House of Lords for half an hour without notes or repetition, with perfect clarity of thought and, except when occasionally he turned from the microphone to embrace his audience, of voice.

Lord Stockton's address on the state of the nation - the Bishop of Lincoln called it a sermon - his maiden speech in a strange chamber to a reverential but unfamiliar congregation, was a tour de force.

They kept him waiting for an hour and a half in his corner seat below the gangway, a scholar fallen among accountants, it seemed.

The House filled. Lord Wilson of Rievaulx, who as Harold Wilson was his Commons sparring partner in the fifties and sixties, took the place opposite. Lord Bernstein represented show business, the other field in which Lord Stockton was, and remains, the acknowledged master.

Michael Heseltine, too new to have seen Supermac perform in the Commons, shirked Prime Minister's questions to take an early seat on the steps of the throne. The side galleries, filled with other strapping commoners, the centurians Lord Shawcross had been there from the start of play.

Lord Boothby, six years Lord Stockton's junior, entered for yet another last appearance. As pps to the Chancellor of the Exchequer, Winston Churchill, Boothby had listened to Macmillan's earlier maiden speech in the Budget debate of April 1925. Mr Churchill took sixpence off income tax, at a cost of only £32m, and earned Macmillan's warm approval.

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Ministers under all-party pressure over Falklands

By Philip Webster, Political Reporter

The Government yesterday came under renewed all-party pressure to reconsider its refusal to engage in negotiations with Argentina about the future of the Falkland Islands.

As Mrs Shirley Williams, president of the Social Democratic Party, and George Robertson, Labour foreign affairs spokesman, returned from a weekend visit to Argentina to call for talks over a long-term settlement, Mr Cyril Townsend, Conservative MP for Beale, urged the Government to move away from the "sterile and costly" Fortification Falklands policy.

Mr Townsend, chairman of the South Atlantic Council, set up to promote better relations between Britain and Argentina, called for the restoration of diplomatic links and the resumption of talks on the Falklands.

Mr Townsend's remarks came after the publication of the first Gallup poll on voters' attitudes to the Falklands. A total of 74 per cent of those questioned wished to restore diplomatic relations with Argentina, and only 37 per cent believed that the islands could remain permanently British.

The long-stated view of the Government, most firmly voiced by the Prime Minister, that no aspects of the islands' sovereignty can be discussed with Argentina, is expected to receive a further rebuff next month in a report by the Tory-dominated Commons Select Committee on Foreign Affairs.

It is expected to argue that discussions on sovereignty cannot be ruled out for ever and that the failure of the Alfonsín Government to make any progress on the issue could pose threats of a military takeover.

Mrs Williams and Mr Robertson met Argentine businessmen, academics, and politicians on their visit. They are to see Sir Geoffrey Howe, the Foreign Secretary, to emphasize the importance of starting negotiations.

Mr Robertson said yesterday: "We found a flexible attitude in Argentina and a genuine desire for better relations."

The democratic Government was well based, but there was a lot of nationalist feeling on the Falklands issue.

Mr Townsend, whose views are shared by many Tory MPs, said the Gallup poll confirmed other indications that there was a growing desire to reduce spending on Fortification Falklands and to restore normal relations.

In the recent United Nations debate, Argentina obtained a large majority for a motion pressing Britain to negotiate and until a vote was taken it remained uncertain whether the EEC partners would stand by Britain.

Athena launches £25,000 arts prize

By David Hewson, Arts Correspondent

A new painting competition with a first prize of £25,000 was announced yesterday.

The Athena Award, sponsored by the Athena poster and print company, will be Britain's most lucrative prize, beating its literary equivalents by several thousand pounds. The Booker Prize, the first to popularize artists' competition, is worth £5,000. The Betty Trask Prize, for works of romantic literature, offers £17,500 to its winner.

Athena's closest equivalent in the visual arts world is the Turner Prize, which was awarded for the first time last week. But its £10,000 prize is available only to those established artists who are deemed to be worthy of nomination.

Lord Annan, the chairman of the board of trustees of the National Gallery, will head the award's administrative committee.

Athena are also awarding three supplementary prizes of £2,000, offering successful artists the chance to have work published by the company, and launching a new London art exhibition at the Mall Galleries where between 300 and 400 of the best works entered will be shown.

The prize is open to anyone aged between 21 and 50. There will be a £15 entrance fee. Entries must be original works in oils, water colour, gouache, air brush, pencil, or pen and ink, or any other two-dimensional material, and must have been completed within the two years prior to the closing date, May 31, 1985.

Those tactics were used again yesterday when about 600 miners built four separate barricades on the main road leading to Frickley Colliery. Ten men stoned police seeking to clear the route so that four men could be bussed in for the first time since the strike began.

Scaffolding poles were taken from a building site to build one barrier and at another barrier garden seats taken from the local social centre park were used to bar the path of the working miners. A considerable police force was deployed, including mounted officers, but they had to use a back road to get through.

Elsewhere in South Yorkshire, a lamp-post was pulled down outside Thurncroft, colliery and timber and stone barricades were put up. A workman's cabin was also pulled across the road. The worst stone-throwing incident was at Rasington, where about 200 pickets gathered to try to prevent working miners entering the pits.

At Hickleton Colliery, between Doncaster and Barnsley, a group of men wearing balaclavas and combat jackets overturned a coal board transit van outside the pit offices and smashed a night security camera before fleeing (Craig Seton writes).

At Worsborough, near Barnsley, the drivers of two security vans were being used to ferry working miners to their pit were attacked and injured by another group of men.

At Barrow, near Barnsley, trees were pulled up to form a barricade across the road near the pit and a power cable was pulled down, blacking out 2,500 homes in the nearby village of Worsborough where Mr Scargill has his home.

Striking pickets in Celynen South, near Newbridge, South Wales, who are determined to close ranks after some men returned to work, smashed pit head equipment and threw five inch bolts at police yesterday as they tried to prevent men reporting to work (Tim Jones writes).



Tactics switch to blockading

By Paul Routledge, Labour Editor

Striking Yorkshire miners, frustrated by the police's strategy in getting working miners to the pits, have switched tactics away from mass picketing to blockading the pits.

The escalation of violence first seen two days ago when lamp-posts were torn down and barricades were put up at colliery access routes was part of a pre-planned intensification of the conflict, according to reliable sources within the coalfield.

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Hume and bishops deplore strike strife

By Our Religious Affairs Correspondent

The Roman Catholic bishops of England and Wales, led by Cardinal Basil Hume, yesterday deplored the atmosphere of instability and violence arising from the miners' strike, which they said was gravely damaging to the morale of the community.

In their first utterance of the issue, they said in a statement: "We believe it is our right and duty to urge all involved in this tragic dispute to seek a swift return to the negotiating table. A fight to the finish can only bring disaster to all concerned."

The statement came in the course of their half-yearly meeting in London after they discussed in private the evidence of growing violence between police and pickets.

"In the mining areas themselves, the 'creeping return' to work seems to have increased the bitter divisions now experienced in traditionally close-knit communities. This adds urgency to the need for negotiations."

The bishops said the industrial relations should not be viewed as a trial of strength, but guided by fundamental moral principles. "No matter how deeply feelings may be aroused, in normal circumstances such as we know in this country no violence of any kind can have a place in this process."

The danger of violence, the statement said, was increased by the apparent unwillingness of either side to attempt to negotiate a settlement at the present time.

Increased productivity and improved competitiveness, which had led to unemployment, had increased the tension in already strained relationships.

Five miners from the Kent Colliery were committed to Chelmsford Crown Court yesterday by Colchester Magistrates, charged with causing criminal damage and with conspiracy to commit arson at a transport depot in Ardleigh, Essex, last July. They were released on bail. They were named as Garry Newell, aged 28, James Waddell, aged 29, Mark Best, aged 26, Brian Day, aged 28, all of Deal, and Emlyn Davies, aged 33, of Broadstairs.

Paul Hopson, aged 21, of Normanton, near Wakefield, was jailed for three months for hurling missiles at police during disturbances outside the Orgrave coking plant, near Sheffield, last May. He denied threatening behaviour but was found guilty at Sheffield Magistrates' Court.

Drive for primary teachers

A campaign to recruit more and better primary school teachers to cope with a new baby boom was launched yesterday by the Department of Education and Science with the publication of bright new recruiting material and a video tape.

Two thousand more primary teachers would be needed by the late 1980s Mr Bob Dunn, a junior minister at the DES, said yesterday. "We want to ensure that there is a heavy level of competition for the available places so that teaching recruits only those who are well qualified and strongly motivated for the demanding task of teaching," he said.

Unpublished department figures show the number of children entering primary school at the age of five increasing by 7,000 between 1984 and 1987.

After 1987 the projections show the number dropping back again to 555,000 entrants in 1989 and to 554,000 in 1990. The number of children starting primary school then rises dramatically to 648,000 in the year 2000.

However, those children entering primary school in the year 2000 are not born yet so the reality may be different. But the DES expects an expansion in primary schools of 100,000 children in the 1990s.

The recruiting film, *A Class of Your Own*, and the brochure, *My Teacher*, are aimed at young people in schools who are making career choices, although Mr Dunn hoped the material would also appeal to graduates and to mature potential entrants.

Merit pay proposal

Merit pay for outstanding teachers is proposed today by Mr William Stubbs, the director of Inner London's education, who suggests the setting up of National Teacher Fellowships to be awarded to teachers of the highest quality.

The idea, strongly opposed by the National Union of Teachers, is similar to the Secretary of State for Education's desire to reward high fliers.

The award of a fellowship would entail leave of absence for professional study, helping with training other teachers, and the award of a bursary.

National talks on restructuring teachers' salaries resume in London tomorrow after the NUT walked out of the last round in the summer. Sir Keith Joseph has now raised the temperature by threatening legislation to achieve a new teachers' contract. One of the elements proposed is merit pay.

Arrests reach 7,658

By a Staff Reporter

A total of 7,658 arrests were made in the miners' dispute between March 13 and November 8, the Home Office said yesterday. Of 8,194 charges, more than half relate to public order offences and obstructing the police. The figures are:

Public order Act, 1936: 1,500; Police Act, 1964: 3,254; Criminal Damage Act, 1971: 1,500; Criminal Law Act, 1977: 1,500; Criminal Attempts Act, 1981: 1,500; Criminal Damage Act, 1971: 1,500; Criminal Law Act, 1977: 1,500; Criminal Attempts Act, 1981: 1,500.

NCB says 5,000 have returned to pits in 10 days

By David Cross

More than 5,000 former strikers have returned to their pits since the latest drift back to work began 10 days ago, the National Coal Board claimed yesterday.

Yesterday's total of 920 new faces was more than double the previous highest figure for a Tuesday, bringing the total so far this week to nearly 3,000. The total for last week was 2,200.

Once again, the north Derbyshire area led the return with 200 former strikers reporting for duty for the first time. An area spokesman said that one additional pit was resuming production.

In the north-eastern area, where 197 new workers crossed picket lines, two pits in Northumberland were manned for the first time since the dispute began last March. At Ellington and Lynemouth, 84 former strikers went back, and seven men reported to work at Ashington colliery.

In the western area, where 131 former strikers returned, Silversdale colliery in north Staffordshire had too many miners on the day shift. An area spokesman said 400 men reported for duty.

In Scotland, the coal board reported that it was able to move coal from the Bliston Glen colliery without the sanction of the miners' union for the first time since the strike in Yorkshire, where a total of 211 former strikers reported for duty for the first time. Frickley colliery in west Yorkshire was manned: an area spokesman claimed that men were working at all six sites in the Selby coalfield.

On November 13, the NCB said: "In the north-eastern area, 197 new workers crossed picket lines, two pits in Northumberland were manned for the first time since the dispute began last March. At Ellington and Lynemouth, 84 former strikers went back, and seven men reported to work at Ashington colliery."

Money to be earned before Christmas by miners returning to work by next Monday				
	Power loader	U'ground worker	Surface craftsman	Surface worker
Weekly wage (5 wks)	£61.50	£52.00	£47.50	£47.00
Bathing and changing	11.75	11.75	11.75	11.75
Holiday pay (12 1/2 days)	325.75	262.50	273.75	235.25
Statutory and colliery rest days	130.30	105.00	109.50	94.10
Service bonus (max)	70.00	70.00	70.00	70.00
Gross pay	1,189.30	974.25	1,012.50	881.60

Source: NCB figures based on maximum available for top grade workers in North-east coalfields.

Havers named over IRA suspect leak

The Attorney General, Sir Michael Havers, was named yesterday as the person who may have helped an IRA woman suspect bomber to escape arrest.

Sir Michael probably leaked the news that a warrant had been issued for her arrest, the Irish Opposition leader, Mr Charles Haughey, said.

He said in the Daily: "All the indications are that this story was handed to *The Sunday Times* by someone high up in British government circles, probably the Attorney General himself, for whatever motive."

The Irish Justice Minister, Mr Michael Noonan, was asked to give full details of last week's bungle when the suspected bomber Miss Evelyn Glenholmes, vanished after warrants from Scotland Yard arrived in Dublin.

Mr Haughey claimed the story was planned in *The Sunday Times* to affect the outcome of the forthcoming Anglo-Irish summit.

He said that the statement by *The Sunday Times* editor, Mr Andrew Neil, defending publication, indicated the story was cleared by the highest authority in the British Government.

Mr Haughey asked: "If so was it something to do with the summit? Was it to create a security atmosphere for the summit?"

Mr Noonan said he had no information about the leak other than that it appeared to have come from high-ranking London police sources. He recalled that Sir Michael had complimented the role of the Irish police in the matter.

Miss Glenholmes, aged 26, is understood to be still in the republic where police are watching airports and ferry terminals in case she attempts to leave.

Mr Andrew Neil, Editor of *The Sunday Times*, said in a statement last night: "Conspiracy theories may hold a special appeal for Mr Charles Haughey, but they do not explain how *The Sunday Times* came by its Evelyn Glenholmes story. *The Sunday Times* never discusses who was or who was not a source on any story. But in the Glenholmes story, the idea seems to have gained currency in Dublin that it was handed to us on a plate by British politicians anxious to cause mischief in Anglo-Irish relations. Unfortunately, it was not that easy. Our story was the result of painstaking investigations over several weeks and was pieced together from several sources on both sides of the Irish Sea, none of whom was aware that we were slowly gathering enough information to build the complete picture."

£1.7m food subsidy for MPs

By Our Political Correspondent

Commons catering for MPs, staff and journalists cost the taxpayer £1,775,000 last year, according to accounts published yesterday.

The House of Commons Refreshment Department reported last July that it had made a "gross profit" of £585,243, which was reduced to an "operating surplus" of £175,271 after expenditure on replacement silverware - at a cost of £54,000 - and kitchen equipment.

But the full extent of the Treasury subsidy for Commons catering was revealed only yesterday, with the publication of the cost of 234 staff employed in Westminster's kitchens, canteens, dining rooms and bars.

The Refreshment Department continues to receive other services free of charge, including accommodation, furniture, gas, electricity and water supplies.

New colonies reprieved

Two of Britain's largest known colonies of the declining great-crested newt have won a reprieve, their landlord, the Blue Circle Cement Company in Gravesend, announced yesterday.

One of two chalk pits in north Kent, thought to contain 3,000 newts each, is to be fenced off for protection, and the other, which was to be filled in as part of a reclamation scheme, will be allowed to stand for two years while naturalists remove the newts to near by ponds.

Licence decision

The Government has decided against reintroducing car radio licences. Mr Giles Shaw, Minister of State at the Home Office said yesterday. The possibility of advertising on the BBC was unlikely to be raised in talks on the new level of the television licence next year he said.

Correction

A Special Report on the University of Newcastle Medical School (November 6) stated that the architect chose not to include a car park. The architects, Robert Mathew, Johnson-Marshall and Partners, say car parking facilities, mostly under cover, were provided in accordance with the university brief and the requirements of the local planning officer.



Life and death: Leonard Rossiter as King John in *The Life and Death of King John* which is to be shown on BBC Television on November 24. A memorial service for the actor takes place at St Paul's, Covent Garden, tomorrow.

Allison is supported by Clough

Mr Brian Clough, the Nottingham Forest manager, told a Tescote industrial tribunal yesterday that Middlesbrough's second division football club, should have honoured Mr Malcolm Allison's contract. Mr Allison was "not a man known for telling lies," Mr Clough said.

Mr Clough appeared as a witness of opinion for Mr Allison, aged 57, who is claiming unfair dismissal.

The tribunal heard that the Middlesbrough board told Mr Allison last March that it was "accepting his resignation" because he had refused to carry out the club's wish to sell players to ease a £300,000 bank overdraft. Mr Allison asked: "Do you mean you are sacking me?"

Mr Mike McCullagh, the club chairman, told the hearing he replied: "Whichever way it is put, you are finished."

The hearing continues today.

Synod anger at being overruled in Commons

By Clifford Longley

There were some stern reactions in the General Synod of the Church of England yesterday to the rebuff it received last July from the House of Commons with talk of disestablishment, but the Archbishop of Canterbury, Dr Robert Runcie, said that the Synod should not react too hastily.

This latest Church-state difficulty arose when Parliament rejected the Appointments of Bishops Measure, which the Synod had approved by an overwhelming majority. The measure, which was to do away with the procedure introduced by HENRY VIII for rubber-stamping nominees for an episcopal vacancy, was outvoted late at night in a Commons back-bench move led by Mr Enoch Powell, Ulster Unionist MP for Down South.

Dr Runcie said that the Synod had to take it seriously, but had also to recognize that Parliament was within its rights, and to heed the message. He called it a "warning about any attempts to slip through Church legislation by what might appear to be statutory means."

Speakers in the Commons' debate had wanted to let off their frustration at recent changes in the life of the Church, particularly movements which seemed to them to be turning the Church into a sect rather than a national church. "But sometimes debates in the Synod are used to let off frustration," he said.

Canon Colin Buchanan, principal of St John's College, Nottingham, said that he was not against any "benign establishment" of the Church, which was gently and deliberately leading to the transfer of powers over the Church from Parliament to the Synod.

The Bishop of Birmingham, the Rt Rev Hugh Montefiore, said that MPs appeared to question whether the Synod was truly representative.

Labour backing sought for private cooperative

From Ronald Faux, Glasgow

The Labour group on Glasgow City Council will today be asked to support council tenants in Possil, the city's most socially deprived area, who have formed a private housing cooperative through which they hope to hold their homes with £1 shares.

The cooperative members claim that the only way to get their leaking, run-down property repaired is by becoming part of the private sector. The tenants propose that they should take over letting and repair of their houses from the council. They would collectively own them.

Mrs Catherine Parker, convenor, said that the scheme would allow repair work to the houses and restore a sense of community.

In Glasgow, community-based housing associations have already improved 10,000 of the city's worst houses but 15,000 remain to be improved. The record shows that after a scheme is completed anti-social behaviour and community spirit are improved.

Two die in triple shooting

Detectives were last night interviewing Lesley Stanners who is critically ill in Addenbrooke's Hospital, Cambridge, after a triple shooting at Long Sutton, Norfolk.

Miss Stanners, aged 34, has gunshot wounds to the head.

Inspector Peter Barnes, of Norfolk police, said: "At the moment we do not know the cause, the motive, or the reason."

The two shot dead are: Alan Sanford, aged 38, of St Leger, and Margaret Stanners, aged 55. Miss Stanners's mother, of Main Road, High Wycombe.

Surrealist's still life of biscuits sells for £300,000

By Hoon Mallalieu

Giorgio de Chirico, the Italian Surrealist, is definitely a painter about whose work there are two opinions, with virtually no common ground between. It is either self-indulgent rubbish or the perfection of beauty.

The second school of thought was obviously present in force at Christie's in New York on Monday when his "Interoiore Metafisico" of 1917, a still life which included a group of cookies and a fishing float, sold for a record \$385,000, or £301,252.

Surrealism was much in favour, with further records for Picabia and Wilfredo Lam, but the work of Max Ernst was much less in demand than in recent seasons.

That evening in Geneva Sotheby's was offering a collection of miniatures of the various branches and connections of the Royal House of Savoy, which had been formed by the late King Umberto II of Italy. The sale produced 324,830 Swiss francs, or £104,785, with 5 per cent bought in, and provided Italian monarchists with a chance to demonstrate their loyalties in competition with the assembled dealers and collectors of Europe.

In the event the most expensive portrait was of a junior member of the family, Benedictine, Duke of Chablais, painted in about 1770. It went to Bucher, a Swiss dealer, at Sw Fr 41,800 or £13,500.

Yesterday in Geneva Sotheby's held a sale of Oriental carpets which made Sw Fr 1,637,460, or £528,000, with 27 per cent bought in. That figure might seem alarming at first glance, but it is a great deal better than on previous occasions, partly because the sale was smaller and more carefully selected.

A fine looking Kum Kapour Zare silk and metal thread prayer rug in warm gold and madder went to a collector from the United Arab Emirates at Sw Fr 187,000 or £60,330, a record for the type.

Most of the 50 works sent by the owners of the Queen's Hotel, Ponzone, where artists who founded the Newlyn School in the 1890s used to pay for their board by painting pictures that went up on the walls, were auctioned at Phillips in London yesterday for £246,224.

Social worker's plea against deportation

A deportation order was served yesterday on Mr Muhammad Idrish, the Bangladeshi social worker who was refused leave to appeal to the House of Lords last week. His campaign to stay in Britain has the support of 86 MPs.

Mr Idrish's union Nalga, announced last night that it will go ahead with a demonstration in Birmingham in January as a protest.

Mr Idrish is to appeal to the Home Office.

0,000 plea

A plea for 0,000 people to be taken into care at the Youth Centre at Lymington, Hampshire, has been made by a group of parents who have formed a group to raise money for a new building.

The group, which has been formed by a group of parents who have formed a group to raise money for a new building, has been formed by a group of parents who have formed a group to raise money for a new building.

Bettaney 'told KGB about planned operation against Soviet suspect'

By Stewart Tendler, Crime Reporter

Michael Bettaney, the MI5 officer convicted of offering to spy for the Soviet Union, spied his approach to the KGB by giving details of an impending operation by the security service against a Soviet suspect in Britain, the Court of Appeal was told yesterday.

Further details of the case against Bettaney were disclosed as he appealed against his conviction which resulted in a prison sentence last April of 23 years. He had faced 10 charges under the Official Secrets Act. After a hearing lasting more than three hours the court rejected his appeal.

The warning to the KGB was disclosed as Mr Michael Mansfield, for Bettaney, argued that the Lord Chief Justice in his summing up at the trial had not asked the jury to consider the nature of the information involved and whether it was prejudicial to the safety and interests of the state.

The Court of Appeal was also told, in the second strand of the appeal, which challenged the use of jury vetting, that a check on the potential jury for the

explained that for ideological reasons I had decided to offer my services as a source of classified information to the KGB.

"In order to establish my bona fides and access to such information, I communicated certain items of classified information."

Two letters were sent to "a person I believed to be a senior officer of the KGB". The first included documentation on the expulsion of three Russians and "details of one impending operation". The interview was never challenged.

Lord Justice Lawton said the Lord Chief Justice had been correct in his trial decision. There was no doubt that Bettaney had passed information nor that it might be useful to an enemy. "It was almost unarguable he was doing it for a purpose prejudicial".

The court also dismissed the appeal on the basis that the use of jury vetting was unconstitutional. The Crown and the defence were entitled to make inquiries about a potential juror, it decided.

Campaign to help children of disabled

By Our Social Services Correspondent

Children as young as four were having to spend hours a day caring for disabled relatives because home helps, home nursing and other services were not available when needed, the Association of Carers said yesterday.

Children were missing out at school and older children were unable to take jobs because community care services were inadequate, the association said as it launched a campaign for better services at a press conference in London.

Mr Jack Ashley, Labour MP for Stoke-on-Trent South, said: "When we have young girls aged five and nine feeding and dressing and taking to the lavatory disabled parents, and we have a boy aged 11 changing his mother's sanitary towel during her periods, we have a stain on British society and a scandal."

Disabled parents, often single, were scared to speak out about what they were having to ask their children to do, for fear the children would be taken into care.

The association estimated that between 5,000 and 10,000 children aged under 18 were having to care for disabled relatives. "We have heard of children as young as four years old who are helping handicapped parents to dress, wash and use the toilet, as well as undertaking shopping and housework", a spokesman said. "This is, we believe, the

Increase in second divorces

By a Staff Reporter

More people are getting divorced for the second time, although there are signs that the overall divorce rate, and the average length of a marriage which ends in divorce, have stabilised since reaching record figures in 1980.

There were 147,479 divorces made absolute last year, half a per cent more than the previous year.

Last year's figure is two-and-a-half the number in 1970, the year before the Divorce Reform Act, 1969, came into effect. Last year, 12 of every 1,000 married people divorced.

The overall stability, however, masks a rise in the number of people divorcing for at least the second time. Last year 31,308 couples who divorced had at least one partner who had gone through at least one previous divorce, compared with 25,411 in 1980.

Figures from the Office of Population Censuses and Surveys show that the median duration of marriages ending in divorce has remained unchanged since 1980 at just over 10 years.

Fewer marriages in the last decade and changes in the population's age structure have led to a 4 per cent increase in divorces among people aged over 35. Among people aged under 35, a total of 3 per cent fewer husbands and 2 per cent fewer wives were divorced last year.

Computer breakdown and error are blamed for Blyth rescue delay



Voyagers' homecoming: Eric Blunn (left) with his wife, Peggy, daughter Elaine, aged 12, and son, Anthony, aged four, and Chay Blyth (right) being welcomed by his daughter Samantha, aged 17, and his wife, Maureen, at Heathrow airport yesterday on their return from Santiago, Chile, after being rescued off Cape Horn (Photograph: Chris Harris).

By David Nicholson-Lord

Mr Chay Blyth and his crewman, Mr Eric Blunn, were welcomed by their families at Heathrow airport yesterday after last week's disaster off Cape Horn which cost them their boat and nearly lost their lives. Both said they would never go around the Cape again.

Mr Blyth, aged 44, said: "We have had a good crack at the Cape".

Mr Blunn, aged 38, said he had "cracked up" when he saw a photograph of his family floating in the water among the wreckage.

It emerged yesterday that computer breakdown and human error were responsible for the nine-hour delay in alerting rescue services to the capsizing of Mr Blyth's trimaran Beefeater II in hurricane-force winds.

Further details came to light of how the Argos satellite-

linked distress warning system, regarded since its introduction five years ago as an important contribution to international yachting safety, failed to respond to Beefeater's signal.

Mr Blyth and his sponsors, Beefeater Gin, have said they are "very unhappy" with the delay in response from the system's control centre in Toulouse. The errors will also worry sponsors and competitors in long-distance yacht races, where the use of an

Argos transponder is fast becoming obligatory.

The system operates via Argos weather satellites, making up to 10 "passes" a day, which pick up the signal from the transponder on the boat.

The signal is in turn picked up by relay stations, fed to a "filtering" centre in Washington and then on to the Centre National d'Etudes Spatiales at Toulouse where it is "decoded". Beefeater's signal came in overnight, and although it was

received at 0100 GMT, according to details supplied to The Times it was not processed until 0630 because of computer breakdown.

Instead of immediately telephoning the police in London, as laid down in emergency procedures, the French operator sent a telex to the London offices of Beefeater, apparently under the impression that it would be open at 7am French time. The Falmouth coastguard was not alerted until 9.30am.

Onslaught on US computer market

British manufacturers of microcomputers for businesses, schools, and universities are preparing to launch their products in the United States (our Science Editor writes).

Some of the new equipment and developments in computer software were unveiled yesterday at Compect, the computer exhibition at Olympia, west London.

One was a demonstration of the Husky handheld computer, with the capacity of a desk top microcomputer, which the

Army and RAF use to check missiles.

Another produced by Brainstorm, Computer Systems using Acorn's Torch computer, designed for businessmen, has been tested for forecasting the weather and gold price rises.

Animal protest gun threat

Violence has become official policy for many in the traditionally pacifist animal rights movement, the Animal Liberation Front said yesterday (Tony Samstag writes). It added that the carrying of firearms would not be ruled out in

certain circumstances.

Mr Ronnie Lee, official spokesman for the group, said from his base in Putney, south-west London: "There may be circumstances where you cannot save the animals unless you force or violence yourself".

The gas people—investing in tomorrow's world today

The fact that gas is such good value makes it today's most popular fuel in British homes—and a powerful and growing force in industry, too.

But the system of underground pipelines needed to bring this clean, controllable fuel to homes, factories and offices all over Britain is largely taken for granted.

It represents a massive national investment.

To replace the 150,000 miles of mains and service pipes into customers' homes, for example, would cost some £12 billion.

Naturally, the mains system needs maintenance—and the gas people, in the search for efficiency, have developed many ingenious ways of laying new mains and of minimising the cost and inconvenience of repairing and replacing existing pipes as the need arises.

This essential work provides thousands of jobs for British workers—and first-class opportunities for British firms.

£1,500 MILLION PROGRAMME FOR BRITAIN'S GAS MAINS

Over the last seven years, more than 20,000 miles of mains have been laid and renewed, at a total cost of over £1,500 million.

And the carefully phased

programme to keep Britain's gas distribution system in good order continues, alongside further extensions to the system.

The next five years or so will see further massive investment in maintenance and extension by British Gas on their customers' behalf.

As everybody knows, to repair a gas main, you usually have to dig a hole in the road.

The gas people dug half a million trenches last year and moved 40 million tons of earth. Now, new technology has been devised to enable pipes to be laid or replaced without trenching—using mechanical moles or techniques for inserting new mains inside old ones.

Where trenches are inevitable, making them narrower—again possible with new technology—also saves expensive earth-moving.

Reinstatement is cheaper and faster, inconvenience to the public is reduced.

FEWER HOLES IN THE ROAD

Pinpointing pipes and other services underground has always been difficult—causing inconvenience, lost time, and higher costs.

The gas people have developed a new instrument for this purpose. Called Gascopact, it makes use of advanced micro-electronics to provide much higher accuracy and greater "user friendliness" than anything known before.

We'll still be digging holes—but there will be fewer of them.

In fact, there will be fewer of them all over the world, because many overseas utilities

have expressed interest in the device, which will, of course, detect other sorts of pipes—and cables, too. There is also export potential in other specialist equipment invented by the gas people.

So yesterday's investment turns out to be tomorrow's export opportunity—bringing more work for British industry, more jobs for British workers.

HOW THE GAS PEOPLE'S NEW VANS SNIFF OUT TROUBLE

In parallel with our far-reaching mains renewal programme, we are using increasingly sophisticated technology for detecting early signs of possible trouble in the distribution system.

For example, special patrol vans carry ultra-sensitive detection equipment, capable of identifying minute quantities of gas escaping from damaged pipes—in concentrations far below the level at which they could be detected by smell. All this work is designed to make the nation's gas system even safer as well as more efficient for our rapidly increasing number of customers—more than 250,000 extra last year, and almost 3 million more over the past decade or so.

These plans for tomorrow are only possible because the profits British Gas creates today are all ploughed back into the business.

Two guilty over paedophile magazine article

Two leading members of the Paedophile Information Exchange were found guilty at the Central Criminal Court yesterday of sending an indecent magazine article through the post.

David Joy, aged 42, and Peter Bremner, aged 44, were convicted after the jury had considered the verdicts for six hours. Joy was also convicted of publishing an obscene article in PIE's magazine, *Contact*.

Both were acquitted of inciting sexual intercourse and buggery with children under 16, and of inciting indecent assault.

Joy, a former teacher of Russell Street, Loughborough, Leicestershire, and Bremner, aged 44, a Doctor of Philosophy, of Upper Clapton Road, Clapton, east London, will be sentenced today. They were remanded in custody.

Sunday trading report backs change in law

By Anthony Bevins, Political Correspondent

The Home Office intends to publish the results of an inquiry into Sunday trading next week, and MPs are confident that legislation based on the report will be introduced by the Government in the next session of Parliament.

The committee of inquiry, chaired by Mr Robin Auld, has urged ministers to sweep away the tangle of laws that restrict Sunday trading.

Mr Leon Brittan, the Home Secretary, is expected to welcome the report when he publishes it next week. His response, however, will be tempered by the need for further consultation on specific points. However, Whitehall

sources were saying yesterday that a Bill could not even be guaranteed.

But it is understood that initial caution on the issue, both inside the Home Office and in other Tory Party quarters, has been broken by the radical Conservative advocates for change.

Mr Brittan is said to have previously feared for the traditional British Sunday. As recently as last May Mr John Gummer, the Tory party chairman, told the party's women's conference: "We must be careful of small things, like the pace of metrication or going overboard for Sunday opening."

Fowler rejects doctor's cot deaths claim

Claims by a Home Office pathologist that most cot deaths are due to parents unintentionally smothering their children were rejected yesterday by Mr Norman Fowler, Secretary of State for Social Services.

There is no evidence to support the view that smothering is the cause of the majority of cot deaths, he said in a Commons reply. "I deplore any unsubstantiated allegations which might give rise to this impression."

His comments came after Dr Donald Wayne last week told the inquest on Adam Bithell, the fourth child his parents had lost in a cot death, that he believed the majority of such deaths were due to suffocation. His views were rejected by specialists.

Mr Fowler said that he was expecting later this month the final report of a three-year study into 988 child deaths. The study is believed to show that up to 300 cot deaths a year are preventable by better training of doctors and parents.

Children die

Levi Kemp, aged three, and his sister, Chantel, aged one, died in their bedroom as fire swept their home in Bushbury Lane, Wolverhampton, yesterday.



Child in need: David Pinder with his mother yesterday.

£90,000 plea for ill baby

Offenders at the Youth Custody Centre at Everthorpe, north Humber, have been helping the parents of a boy aged five months to raise £90,000 to take him to the United States for a liver transplant.

Doctors have told Mr and Mrs Alan Pinder, of Beck Road, Everthorpe, that only a transplant could save the life of their baby, David, who was born with no bile ducts in his liver.

The couple launched an appeal yesterday to raise the money.

Mrs Susan Pinder, aged 22, said David "could have a transplant in this country, but doctors have warned there is a shortage of donors and also administrative problems".

David's father, aged 29, said that his son had two operations at Leeds General Infirmary, which were unsuccessful. So far nearly £4,000 has been promised for the appeal.



Britain's got a wonderfuel future!

Gas

Callaghan plan for ending coal strike

THE ECONOMY

It was clear that with the bulk of the year's investment was likely to have risen by 7½ per cent, even higher than expected, Mr Nigel Lawson, Chancellor of the Exchequer, said on the final day of the debate on the Queen's Speech outlining the Government's legislative proposals.

In a debate on the economy Mr Lawson told MPs that in last year's autumn statement he had forecast that investment would rise by 4 per cent in the current year. The Opposition had then cast doubt on his forecast.

Tory MPs cheered when Mr Lawson said investment was likely to be up not by 4 per cent but by 7½ per cent.

Mr Roy Hattersley, chief Opposition spokesman on Treasury and economic affairs, said that high unemployment was an integral part of the Government's economic strategy.

He moved an Opposition amendment suggesting that the speech reaffirmed policies which had already done severe damage to the British economy and would hold back the prospects of economic recovery in the future.

The Chancellor had said yesterday that they should not worry too much about North Sea oil running out as it would certainly see out his life. They may be true, but North Sea oil would not last out for the life of this year's school leavers, 150,000 of whom were still unemployed.

He suggested that Mr Lawson had meant that North Sea oil revenues would last the life of this Government, and that was his real concern, so that his policies would be cushioned by that unique benefit. But even with £11b of such revenues, the Government both anticipated and planned for a permanent reservoir of three million unemployed.

Mr Lawson used that pool as a sort of income pool to hold down the total wage bill and hoped to use it to entice the trade unions.

The Chancellor would improve his reputation if he honestly admitted that the Government did not anticipate any reduction in unemployment in the foreseeable future.

The best way to increase employment and reduce unemployment was by a spreading whatever funds were available in the public sector, particularly in capital programmes. He was not suggesting they could spend, spend, spend indefinitely down to zero unemployment. But other countries had demonstrated that, by prudent investment in capital works, unemployment would certainly be reduced.

The Institute of Fiscal Studies and the London Business School both agreed that £1b spent on public works would create six times more jobs than £1b used to reduce taxation. No reputable economist could argue with that. But some disreputable politicians said they would rather give it away.

The Chancellor was determined to use any surplus to cut direct taxation. How could he claim that his prime objective, or even his serious intention, was to reduce unemployment?

He could understand the political need for being seen to make some cuts in taxation. The Government was twice elected on

the false prospectus that that would be done quickly.

Annual taxation was now £22.5b higher than in 1979. So if the Chancellor achieved his objective of cutting taxes by £1.5b he would only have to reduce the overall burden by another £21b to get back to the level he inherited from the last Labour Government.

For the time being the Prime Minister would continue to posture as a conviction politician with the price of her convictions being paid by the poor and the unemployed.

But the consequence of this country (he continued) is beginning to stir at the thought of high employment, prolonged unemployment, intentional unemployment. Some Tory backbenchers have caught the mood already. Eventually the Prime Minister, for electoral purposes, will catch the same mood. Eventually she will lower her voice and say unemployment is a scourge which, given the chance, she will eradicate.

She has had the chance. She has refused to take it and she will not be forgiven.

Mr Lawson said that in his first Parliament the Government has the crucial priority of bringing down the unsustainable level of government borrowing inherited from Labour. That borrowing had not only fuelled inflation; it drove up interest rates and repaid all the foreign debt it had inherited.

This Government has reduced the borrowing requirement and repaid all the foreign debt it had inherited.

Fiscal priority in this Parliament could shift to the reduction and reform of taxation started in the last Budget.

The abolition of the pernicious national insurance surcharge took effect only on October 1. Jobs had been free of that tax for nearly 4½ years. There was sufficient time to assess the benefits of abolition. The tax charges announced in this year's Budget could have their full effect only in the coming year of 1985-86.

Thus there was already built into a system a tax cut of £1.5b next year, and with the instrument the necessary qualifications yesterday the prospective scope for tax cuts in the next budget was a further £1.5b.

Mr Hattersley accused the Government of using high unemployment as a means to curb wages. He was wrong. The Government was using high unemployment in order to reduce unemployment. Mr Hattersley knew that wage moderation could generate more jobs, and was the right way to do so.

Mr Hattersley had proposed today the very thing that was tried before when his party was in government - tried and found wanting, tested and failed.

Our policies (he said) had been shown to be wrong. We said we would bring inflation down, and we did. We said lower inflation would lead to growth and jobs. We said growth would bring jobs and it has. We said that the Government's policies were designed to facilitate the creation of wealth and jobs. The first year of the expanded business expansion scheme, 1983-84, was most encouraging.

The Government estimated that at least £75m and probably more was raised by small businesses under the scheme in 1983-84. More than 10,000 investors had put their money into over 400 small companies.

About 30 per cent of the

companies had raised £50,000 or less. Fifty per cent had raised between £50,000 and £250,000 and a few raised £1m or more.

Particularly encouraging was the fact that well over half the total investment, at least £41m, had gone to young or very young start-up companies. The rest had gone to more mature, but still small companies.

"The full results of a survey of the scheme would be published shortly. The importance of direct ownership had been a constant theme. Interest in share owning was growing far beyond the employees of particular companies and British Telecom had handled a million or more telephone calls requesting information on sales."

In 1979, there had been fewer than 30 profit-sharing schemes in the whole of British industry but today there were 788 with many more planned, and since 1979, more than 500,000 employees had benefited.

This had created a new set of attitudes, far removed from the "them and us" attitude which had bedevilled the country for so long. It led to better motivation, higher profits, faster expansion and more jobs.

It was a long-term policy but there was no short cut. Mr James Callaghan (Cardiff, South and Penarth, Lab), the former Prime Minister, said there was a gloomy long-term prospect for unemployment and fewer jobs. If the country carried on as at present, with the long-term secular decline of the economy, it would sink into some genteel, shabby, penury, in the next 20 years.

The Government should change policy to get higher production and use its international influence to achieve the same. They must follow policies in trade and aid which would enable developing countries to increase foreign earnings.

There had been misjudging of the miners' strike. Both sides now said negotiations were at an end. I was taught (he said) the essence of negotiation was to carry your case right to the point you could go no further, to recognize when you have got all you can wring out of your opponents, to leave yourself a way out so at the end you can settle honourably and live to fight another day.

I do not think either side in the present dispute gets high marks in these tests which were true when I was young.

I can understand Mr Scargill's pride in miners, even when it leads him wrongly to fail to condemn acts of violence and intimidation. I believe it would go on rising and so did businessmen. The Government's response to it was not commensurate with the concern expressed in the Queen's Speech.

On overseas aid, the Government was making a great mistake if it did not increase its budget with the world in its present unstable state. He would like to see the diplomatic service strengthened.

Mr Roy Jenkins (Glasgow, Hillhead, SDP) said there should be a coordinated European expansion to offset the US-aim. Britain could take the lead. Further reduction in the PSBR was a totally inappropriate aim. Britain's PSBR was very low by international standards and the total weight of public debt was very low by historic standards.

Any cut in real terms of the measure of overseas aid would be unacceptable lunacy when they were trying to deal with the problem in Ethiopia.

The Plan for Coal needed developed now which called for the sort of review suggested.

Mr Richard Douglas (Dunfermline West, Lab) said the difference in the cost of the project now was about £700m.

Mr Heseltine replied that he had a responsibility to update the defence programme and it was being carried out along the lines established under previous governments. If anything, he had tended to try to bring forward the updating and amendments of Trident when possible.

In view of the interest of the Public Account Committee and the Select Committee on Defence he was trying to see if he could bring forward the updating of the latest review which was in the last stages of completion.

Mr Desmond Davies, chief Opposition spokesman on defence, said he did not just tell the House that since we debated the defence estimates in the summer the cost of Trident has risen by £750m? This means about five new frigates sunk across the foreign exchange.

Why does he go through the charade of pretending he can estimate the cost of Trident? He has

no idea of the final cost. Why does he not admit it?

Mr Heseltine said it was intriguing that the Government was accused of not knowing the cost and yet Mr Davies was pressing him to reveal it earlier than usual.

Any estimates would try to anticipate exchange rates for the rest of this decade. He would not yet confirm or deny, because the review had not been completed, what Mr Davies had said about the change taking place on such a scale.

Mr Adam Butler, Minister of State for the Home Office, said the Government was considering a replacement trainer aircraft for the Royal Air Force, which, he said, it was hoped to announce around the turn of the year.

The Government would take into account the operational performance of the aeroplane, the needs of the RAF, the question of jobs in the

United Kingdom and the international sales prospects.

Mr Gerald Haworth (Cannock and Burntwood, C) said there was an acrimonious battle going on between the RAF and the MoD to build the aircraft, particularly on the question of UK content.

The sooner a decision can be taken the better (he said). Will Mr Butler assure the House that the performance of the RAF will be given top priority?

Mr Butler: I cannot add to what I have said. All the contenders have a high level of UK manufacturing content in them.

Mr Kenneth Maginnis (Fermanagh and South Tyrone, OUP) should the Shorts Tucano be selected to replace the Phantom more jobs than any of the other contenders.

It is a long time since the Minister of Defence has supported Shorts in getting them an order for an aircraft. They have gained a most prestigious order from the United States recently, it is time the MoD considered giving them one.

Mr Butler: I am sensitive to Shorts position but I should remain totally objective on this selection.

The number of jobs involved in

the servicing of Nimrod aircraft would be put out to competitive tender, Mr Adam Butler, Minister of State for Defence Procurement, said during questions in the Commons.

He added that this issue would be examined very carefully to identify whether companies could carry out the work and obtain security clearance.

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Kinnock in clash on aid cash

FAMINE RELIEF

Mr Neil Kinnock, Leader of the Opposition, accused Mrs Margaret Thatcher, the Prime Minister, of a shameful answer when he asked her in the Commons to reverse the cuts on overseas aid. The Prime Minister said that the Government would be able to do so again to a similar situation.

Mr Kinnock, in opening exchanges said: "The Government has cut overseas aid by £100m in the past four years. Has that programme stopped or will it continue, or, in the name of humanity, will she reverse the cuts and do it now?"

Mrs Thatcher: I cannot give any more information than is contained in this year's autumn statement which is in precisely the same form as that of the previous year's autumn statement.

In other words, the budget of the Foreign and Commonwealth Office, including overseas development aid, was given as a global sum.

There are two departments which have precisely the same budget as was anticipated in the white paper. It has not been increased or decreased. The total amount was £1,800m in 1984-85 and £1,870m in 1985-86.

Mr Kinnock: Hunger has not decreased at all. This country feels it has a moral responsibility and wants to discharge it. She is still dodging, as the Chancellor dodged yesterday, the question of the Minister for Overseas Development (Mr Timothy Raison) last week.

She is the Prime Minister. She sits in the House of Commons. She is the one who has to decide whether there are any cuts or is she too ashamed to say?

Mrs Thatcher: The global budget is done at this time of year. Within the total budget, separate provision is made by the Foreign Secretary.

Last year, up to the previous year, 1983-84, when the total Foreign Office budget was £1,683m. I have not the precise aid figures. We have gone up to £1,870m this year.

That budget has allowed us to respond to Ethiopia and there will be no question but that we could respond in future in the same way. Last year we sent £100m to Ethiopia. We have sent £120m this year.

Mr Kinnock: That is a shameful answer from the Prime Minister. I do not think either the general public or the people engaged in trying to help the hungry will forgive her for that.

Will she now reverse the cuts programme and discharge the responsibility of this country to the poor of this world?

Mrs Thatcher: He is trying to distract from the fact that we have sent £100m to Ethiopia. He does not like that lead and he is trying to distract from it.

The budget in future for the Foreign Office will be sufficient to enable humanitarian aid of that kind.

Mr James Lester (Bristol, C): Will she also inquire what effect and machinery there is to deal with the diverse rate of exchange and the effect on our aid budget, in view of our commitment in the Queen's Speech to a substantial overseas aid programme, which is supported in the white paper of this House?

Mrs Thatcher: The Foreign Office budget, including aid, is substantial. Most aid expenditure is in sterling and not therefore affected by exchange rate movements.

any order will be conditioned not only by the initial order from the RAF but the prospect of overseas sales.

Mr Paddy Ashdown (Yeovil, Lib): The only aircraft designed fully to meet the RAF's requirements is the Westland AAC. Substitution, in its choice could provide significant reciprocal Far Eastern orders for British industry.

It is important to provide the RAF with an aircraft of no less capability than they require. Mr Butler: This exchange is typical of the lobbying which has already taken place, is taking place and will continue to take place for some few weeks.

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Lord Stockton condemns 'new kind of wicked hatred'

HOUSE OF LORDS

Britain could not afford the miners' strike, the growing division between a comparatively prosperous south and an ailing north and Midlands and a new kind of wicked hatred among different types of people, the Earl of Stockton, formerly Mr Harold Macmillan, said in the House of Lords.

Lord Stockton, a former Minister of the Home Office, said that the Government should be able to do so again to a similar situation.

Mr Kinnock, in opening exchanges said: "The Government has cut overseas aid by £100m in the past four years. Has that programme stopped or will it continue, or, in the name of humanity, will she reverse the cuts and do it now?"

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need, resulting in enormous debts in the international banking system which hung over it like a great cloud.

Whatever else might be said in criticism of the government of the past four years it had faced a terrible situation with courage, determination and a persistence which must ever be admired by all reasonable men and women. Of course things were very unpleasant, but they had to be done.

The question was what was to be done now. Some control had been regained of a machine which had been completely out of control. There were the expansionists, the new-Keynesians and the monetarists.

In France a President elected on a policy of reflation on a big scale had followed the policies of the British Government. The United States President Reagan had broken all the rules and all the economists were furious. (Renewed laughter.)

A miracle had been achieved. The American had had the sense to make someone else pay for the expansion of the dollar. The US, whose scientists, inventors and technologists had been the first to see the coming of

the new industrial revolution, had been the first to exploit it.

Britain could not say of the new industrial revolution based on the computer, silicon chips and automation, "We will just let it come". It was necessary to think out what this meant in human terms.

In 10 or 15 years time the word "unemployment" would never be used. It would be a matter of the proper use of leisure. All sorts of old things would have to go by the board on all sides.

We must (he said) come to it with an open mind and study those problems. If we are to have the intellectual revolution which is involved we also need a kind of moral and spiritual one.

It broke his heart to see what was happening in this country today. This terrible strike by the best men in the world, who beat the Kaiser's and Hitler's armies. Britain could not afford that kind of thing.

If (he concluded) we replace some of these dreadful, wicked systems that have crept into our life, if we abandon cynicism and bitterness and hatred for each other, if we take up the great theme St Paul has given us about faith, hope and charity and above all charity, then I see these young men and women from every

home in England setting out with confidence on a new phase in the long road which all men's pilgrimages here on earth.

The Earl of Gowrie, Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster, who opened the debate said that in general economic policy the Government must continue on the present path. The most frequent appeal was for what was known as selective spending on hospitals and schools, maintenance, waterways, rail, roads services, energy conservation and the like.

He took this proposal with the greatest seriousness. It was put forward by people to whom he listened with the greatest respect. But he remained sceptical.

For one thing the argument implied that there was a capital project or infrastructure project which was a present of great severity. Little evidence had been presented that worthwhile projects were not going ahead due to lack of public sector funds. Streamlining and accelerating planning would be the best way to bring more construction projects on stream.

Current borrowing levels were already having a rather greater deflationary effect in other areas than the Government would like. That was why it was so determined to maintain public spending at a constant level in real terms but within that to maximize the efficiency and value of the money being spending on reducing unemployment.

It was necessary to get across the message that borrowing money to help industry increased the cost of money which hurt industry.

Lord Barnett for the Opposition, said the Government's economic policies could be summarized as there was to be no change in current public sector borrowing, a major factor in the level of unemployment, and that there were no alternatives.

If inflation was held down, the country was told, everything else would follow. Unfortunately, that theory it was now in its sixth year and unemployment was still not coming down.

As for no alternatives, there was a case for increasing capital purchases in the public sector, which was supported by the CBI. There was a limit to the amount available for spending but in no way had that limit been reached.

Lord Dismant (SDP) said successive ministers had said everything was going to come right shortly, but the country was still waiting.

If the Chancellor were to go to the north of England and tell the unemployed that the Government was giving top priority to reducing inflation and therefore they no longer need worry about their bank balances being eroded, he would get a very different reception. The magic of the appeal of sound money was not great when one possessed neither sound nor unsound money.

The use by Mr Michael Mauder, chief Opposition spokesman on health and social security, of House of Commons paper and postage paid envelopes to circulate Labour Party leaflets was investigated. The Speaker (Mr Bernard Weatherill) said in the Commons.

Mr David Steel, Leader of the Liberal Party (Tweeddale, Ettrick and Lauderdale) said: Can she tell us why we should trust in her belief that present policies will lead to a fall in unemployment, when only last December she told us of her belief the pound note would be retained? (Laughter.)

Mrs Thatcher: If he reads exactly what I said, he will find the pound note will be retained for about two years longer than would otherwise have been retained.

I do not think it right to spend another £3m on a special extra print of one pound notes to last only nine or 10 months when there are a number of other things to do with that money.

Use of HoC notepaper

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PM now backs £1 coin

Mrs Thatcher, the Prime Minister, rejected a plea for the reissue of the pound note, during question time in the Commons.

Mr Norman St John-Stevens (Chelmsford, C) had said such a move would have the support of virtually the entire country.

Mr St John-Stevens was cheered by Conservative MPs when he asked: Will Mrs Thatcher have words with the Chancellor of the Exchequer and ask him, will he have second thoughts about the proposed abolition of the pound note?

Mrs Thatcher: I do not think I can offer Mr St John-Stevens much hope. The pound note will have lasted for two years longer than it might otherwise have been the case.

During that time the pound note has been much more widespread in use and is accepted. The pound note lasts for only nine or 10 months. It

would cost £3m to have another reissue and I think we could find a better use for £3m.

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Cane not being abolished

The Government had no intention of abolishing corporal punishment in schools, but it had to respect the judgment of the European Court of Human Rights that convictions of parents otherwise had to be respected, Mrs Thatcher, the Prime Minister, said.

Malta tells 2,000 teachers to transfer

Valletta (Reuters) - Two thousand state school teachers in Malta returned to work after their seven-week strike to find that the Department of Education was transferring them to different schools.

Mr Carmel Mifsud Bonnici, the Education Minister, said the move was aimed at avoiding incidents and it was "in the interest of the teachers not to go to those schools they had abandoned during the strike". A policeman was posted at the gate of each school.

The teachers called off their strike on Saturday saying they were doing so as a gesture of good will, though their demands for better pay and working conditions had not been met. The Government and the Movement of United Teachers have begun talks on the demands.

Greece lifts Le Pen ban

Athens (Reuters) - Greece has reversed its decision not to allow the extreme right French politician, Mr Jean-Marie Le Pen, to visit Athens next month.

A government spokesman said that when the original decision was made it was believed Mr Le Pen planned to visit Greece's former military dictators in jail and demand their release. This would not be allowed.

Wife's revenge

Bahrain (Reuters) - A woman who killed her sleeping husband by pouring boiling oil over him was jailed for three years in the Gulf emirate of Ras Al-Khaimah. Sultana Muhammad, aged 30, an Indian by birth, will be deported after completing the sentence.

Malaysia denial

Kuala Lumpur (AP) - Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad, the Malaysian Prime Minister, has denied that Malaysia plans to boycott British goods in retaliation for Britain's refusal to allow Malaysia's airline more landing rights in London, the national news agency reported.

Fishermen free

Bangkok (AP) - Eighty-six Thai fishermen jailed for allegedly violating Vietnamese waters have come home, the first batch released under a Thai-Vietnamese agreement reached earlier this year. They spent 18 months in detention.

Fatal beating

Nairobi (AP) - A primary school teacher is to be charged with murder after he allegedly beat a 12-year-old pupil to death at her desk after a disturbance in class. Other pupils screamed and wept during the beating.

Japanese alert

Tokyo (AP) - A day after a Soviet bomber violated Japanese airspace, 32 Japanese jets scrambled when seven Soviet bombers flew through international airspace near Japan, a Defence Agency spokesman said.

Reporter shot

Brasilia (Reuters) - A Brazilian crime reporter, Senhor Mario Eugenio, was murdered by men who shot and stabbed him as he left a radio station here. He had been investigating vigilante death squads.

Acid cloud

Kempten (Reuters) - Police told inhabitants of this Bavarian town to stay indoors after an escape of hydrochloric acid from a local chemical plant. No serious injuries were reported.

Own goal

Washington (AFP) - A robber armed with a sawn-off shotgun held up a Chinese laundry here, decided to fire a blast into the floor to impress the owner - and shot himself in the right foot. He was arrested in hospital.

Mitterrand fails to set date for Romania visit

From Diana Geddes, Paris

Mr Stefan Andrei, the Romanian Foreign Minister, ended a 48-hour official visit to Paris yesterday having apparently obtained confirmation of President Mitterrand's expressed intention to visit Romania next year, but without succeeding in getting a specific date.

Neither President Mitterrand nor Mr Andrei made any statement after the meeting yesterday, and the Elysee Palace declined comment on the content of the talks which lasted just under one hour. Mr Andrei is due to stay on in a private capacity in France until tomorrow.

An official visit by President Mitterrand to Romania was originally planned to take place in September, 1982, but was cancelled officially because of Mr Mitterrand's "pressure of work" and unofficially because of a sharp deterioration in Franco-Romanian relations, due to increasing French concern over Romania's lack of respect for human rights.

Official French sources let it be understood at the time that

France was particularly angry about the disappearance of Virgil Tanase, a Romanian dissident writer who had defected to France in 1977. The sources indicated that Mr Tanase had been kidnapped by Romanian secret police, but it was revealed later that he has been hidden by the French secret police after receiving threats against his life.

After his meeting with Mr Andrei on Monday, M. Claude Cheysson, the French Foreign Minister, spoke warmly of the "remarkable effort" made by the Romanian Government over the past two years in settling more than 200 "humanitarian" cases, mainly involving the adoption of Romanian children by French couples.

It is unlikely that France feels that Romania really has had a change of heart on human rights, however. It is more a question of feeling that the time is ripe for opening up a dialogue with certain Eastern block countries.

Nicaragua crisis • Shultz back in US • Brasilia summit • Managua mobilizes • EEC concern

Sandinistas confirm they received helicopter gunships from Russia

From Nicholas Ashford, Washington

Father Miguel d'Escoto, the Nicaraguan Foreign Minister, yesterday confirmed for the first time that Soviet-built helicopter gunships had been delivered to Nicaragua last week. They were in crates unloaded from a Soviet vessel in the Pacific port of Corinto which the Reagan Administration said might contain MiG21 jet aircraft.

Father d'Escoto, interviewed on ABC's *Good Morning America* television show, said "a few helicopters" had been delivered. Although he did not identify their type, they are believed by Nicaraguan rebels to be Mi24 attack helicopters, which defence experts say are among the best counter-insurgency weapons in the world.

The helicopters are likely to prove a highly effective weapon for the Sandinista regime in its fight against the US-backed Contra guerrillas fighting in the jungles and mountains along Nicaragua's border with Honduras.

Although the Reagan Administration now concedes Nicaragua has not received MiGs, it has shifted its concern to what Mr Caspar Weinberger, the Defence Secretary, has described as a "tremendously increased flow of offensive

weaponry" from the Soviet block to the Sandinistas.

Mr George Shultz, the Secretary of State, who returned to Washington yesterday after attending a meeting of the Organization of American States in Brasilia, said that the United States would work in every way possible to rid the Western hemisphere of "the aggressive and subversive influence of Soviet arms shipments to Nicaragua".

Meanwhile, a US human rights organization has strongly criticized the Reagan Administration for its "unabashed use of half truths and outright lies" in regard to the Nicaraguan Government's treatment of its Miskito Indian population.

A report by the Americans Watch Committee said: "It is false that 'thousands (of Miskitos) have been slaughtered' as the President said on May 9. It is also false that the Miskitos 'have been starved and abused'."

It added that the Miskitos' human rights situation had improved significantly in the past year.

● SAO PAULO: The situation in Central America, Latin American debts and the Falklands were amongst topics discussed on the first day of the

meeting in Brasilia of the Organization of American States (Patrick Knight writes).

Señor Nora Astorga, the Nicaraguan Vice-Foreign Minister, accused the United States of practicing terrorism against her country, and international law.

"For four years, we have been suffering state terrorism practiced by the United States, with the sole objective of changing the will of our people from consolidating their revolution, the first pluralistic democratic process in Nicaragua."

● MANAGUA: Tanks were rumbling on the streets of Managua for the second day yesterday taking part in a dress rehearsal for the defence of the Nicaraguan capital against a possible American invasion (Our Correspondent writes).

Sandinista leaders said the Army would remain in a state of "permanent alert" until the crisis was over. Twenty-three Soviet-built T54 and T55 tanks were deployed on the north side of the city, 11 of them on the airport road. More were stationed at key intersections.

Young army recruits, some of them only 16 years' old, were practising combat drill in open spaces around the edge of town. In an overgrown football field



Nicaragua still smiles: A young soldier on a Russian tank in Managua, and Señora Nora Astorga, the Deputy Foreign Minister (right), at the OAS assembly in Brasilia.

soldiers were learning how to jump on and off a moving tank. The exercise was followed by a crowd of gleeful children who were invited afterwards to climb onboard the tanks.

The exercises appear to have a strong morale-boosting element. In one field an officer addressed the onlookers, urging them to help defend "the achievements of the revolution. These are your tanks, we are your Army", he said. "We are

ready to fight to the last drop of blood".

Meanwhile, Señora Daniel Orfega, the junta coordinator, was declared President-elect yesterday by the Supreme Electoral Council of Nicaragua.

● BRUSSELS: An independent EEC assessment of the increasingly dangerous situation in Nicaragua is to be made by Community foreign ministers at a special meeting here next Tuesday (Ian Murray writes).

The subject was raised informally during the Council of Ministers session, which ended yesterday when a majority of countries argued that the left-wing Sandinista rulers of Nicaragua had won a convincing victory in the elections.

Concern was voiced, however, particularly by Britain, over the fact that a third of the population had not voted, while up to a quarter had supported very extreme opposition groups.

Italy offers extra cash to maintain Lomé links

From Ian Murray, Brussels

Italy, one of the poorest countries in the EEC, yesterday volunteered to pay extra to help to buy a new cooperation agreement with the 64 developing countries linked to the Community by the Lomé Convention.

The Italian offer came at a foreign council in Brussels, after West Germany and Britain refused point-blank to increase their contributions above the level agreed in principle last month. This would have provided a total of £4,200m in aid over five years.

As a result of the Italian offer to pay about £75m more than it needs to, however, it seemed likely last night that the Community would be able to increase the total aid package by about £300m, enough to ensure that the third Lomé agreement will be signed next month.

Part of the extra cash is accounted for by assuming that Spain and Portugal will be members of the Community and paying their share of the aid programme from 1986.

In parallel negotiations, however, the existing member states failed to make any progress on the final difficult chapters which have to be completed this month.

This means that Spain and Portugal can at best expect to be offered "take it or leave it" terms at the final negotiating session.

The busier you are, the more you need Living Assurance.

Up to £40,000 in life insurance for your loved ones.



Up to £10,000 if you suffer a critical illness...

It's a fact that active, lively people with family responsibilities - busy making their way in the world, can so easily be struck by a heart attack, or stroke, or suffer from cancer, or coronary artery disease.

Yet many will live, thanks to advances in modern medicine. That's why this new life assurance is so important. Because death is not the only eventuality you must consider. A critical illness can require prolonged treatment. Or, you could face a heart attack or stroke, with all the expenses of a stay in hospital and convalescence.

Should you suffer one of these conditions, obviously you'll want the best possible care. You may want to choose your own doctor... have a private room... extra nursing care... all of which cost money. You'll be faced with loss of income while you're in hospital or convalescing at home. And your household bills will keep piling up.

New Living Assurance is the answer

Living Assurance provides double protection for you and your family - with high life cover and help when you need money most... for convalescence, for extra care, for peace of mind.

Here's how Living Assurance works. Cover is offered through four basic plans, providing £10,000, £20,000, £30,000, or £40,000 of life cover. Once insured, you are also protected in the event that you are stricken with cancer, a stroke, or a heart attack, or if you require surgery for coronary artery disease. A lump sum "living benefit" equaling 25% of your life cover will be paid directly to you following diagnosis of one of these conditions. So, you would receive an immediate payment of £2,500, £5,000, £7,500, or £10,000 depending on the plan chosen.

Most important, even after this payment is made, the balance of your life cover - 75% - remains in force. Thus, you get a substantial amount of money at that most critical moment of illness... and you continue to protect your family's security no matter what the future brings.

The advantages of low-cost term insurance... plus a guaranteed right to convert to a whole life or endowment plan.

Your policy will stay in effect protecting you for a full 15 years (or until age 65, whichever is sooner). You have high-level cover during the time of your life when your responsibilities are the greatest.

And if you so choose, you have the guaranteed option to convert the existing amount of your term assurance to a regular whole life or endowment plan.

while your policy is still in effect. This is important because life insurance can be more difficult to get as you grow older, especially if you've had a health problem.

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Age last birthday	PLAN A £10,000 life assurance; £2,500 living benefit	PLAN B £20,000 life assurance; £5,000 living benefit	PLAN C £30,000 life assurance; £7,500 living benefit	PLAN D £40,000 life assurance; £10,000 living benefit
MONTHLY PREMIUMS				
Age up to 25	£ 3.95	£ 6.95	£ 9.95	£12.95
27-31	4.45	7.95	11.45	14.95
32-35	4.95	8.95	12.95	16.95
36-40	5.45	9.95	14.45	18.95
41-45	5.95	10.95	15.95	20.95
46-50	6.45	11.95	17.45	22.95
51-55	6.95	12.95	18.95	24.95
56-60	7.45	13.95	20.45	26.95
61-65	7.95	14.95	21.95	28.95
66-70	8.45	15.95	23.45	30.95
71-75	8.95	16.95	24.95	32.95
76-80	9.45	17.95	26.45	34.95
81-85	9.95	18.95	27.95	36.95
86-90	10.45	19.95	29.45	38.95
91-95	10.95	20.95	30.95	40.95
96-100	11.45	21.95	32.45	42.95
101-105	11.95	22.95	33.95	44.95
106-110	12.45	23.95	35.45	46.95
111-115	12.95	24.95	36.95	48.95
116-120	13.45	25.95	38.45	50.95
121-125	13.95	26.95	39.95	52.95
126-130	14.45	27.95	41.45	54.95
131-135	14.95	28.95	42.95	56.95
136-140	15.45	29.95	44.45	58.95
141-145	15.95	30.95	45.95	60.95
146-150	16.45	31.95	47.45	62.95
151-155	16.95	32.95	48.95	64.95
156-160	17.45	33.95	50.45	66.95
161-165	17.95	34.95	51.95	68.95
166-170	18.45	35.95	53.45	70.95
171-175	18.95	36.95	54.95	72.95
176-180	19.45	37.95	56.45	74.95
181-185	19.95	38.95	57.95	76.95
186-190	20.45	39.95	59.45	78.95
191-195	20.95	40.95	60.95	80.95
196-200	21.45	41.95	62.45	82.95
201-205	21.95	42.95	63.95	84.95
206-210	22.45	43.95	65.45	86.95
211-215	22.95	44.95	66.95	88.95
216-220	23.45	45.95	68.45	90.95
221-225	23.95	46.95	69.95	92.95
226-230	24.45	47.95	71.45	94.95
231-235	24.95	48.95	72.95	96.95
236-240	25.45	49.95	74.45	98.95
241-245	25.95	50.95	75.95	100.95
246-250	26.45	51.95	77.45	102.95
251-255	26.95	52.95	78.95	104.95
256-260	27.45	53.95	80.45	106.95
261-265	27.95	54.95	81.95	108.95
266-270	28.45	55.95	83.45	110.95
271-275	28.95	56.95	84.95	112.95
276-280	29.45	57.95	86.45	114.95
281-285	29.95	58.95	87.95	116.95
286-290	30.45	59.95	89.45	118.95
291-295	30.95	60.95	90.95	120.95
296-300	31.45	61.95	92.45	122.95
301-305	31.95	62.95	93.95	124.95
306-310	32.45	63.95	95.45	126.95
311-315	32.95	64.95	96.95	128.95
316-320	33.45	65.95	98.45	130.95
321-325	33.95	66.95	99.95	132.95
326-330	34.45	67.95	101.45	134.95
331-335	34.95	68.95	102.95	136.95
336-340	35.45	69.95	104.45	138.95
341-345	35.95	70.95	105.95	140.95
346-350	36.45	71.95	107.45	142.95
351-355	36.95	72.95	108.95	144.95
356-360	37.45	73.95	110.45	146.95
361-365	37.95	74.95	111.95	148.95
366-370	38.45	75.95	113.45	150.95
371-375	38.95	76.95	114.95	152.95
376-380	39.45	77.95	116.45	154.95
381-385	39.95	78.95	117.95	156.95
386-390	40.45	79.95	119.45	158.95
391-395	40.95	80.95	120.95	160.95
396-400	41.45	81.95	122.45	162.95
401-405	41.95	82.95	123.95	164.95
406-410	42.45	83.95	125.45	166.95
411-415	42.95	84.95	126.95	168.95
416-420	43.45	85.95	128.45	170.95
421-425	43.95	86.95	129.95	172.95
426-430	44.45	87.95	131.45	174.95
431-435	44.95	88.95	132.95	176.95
436-440	45.45	89.95	134.45	178.95
441-445	45.95	90.95	135.95	180.95
446-450	46.45	91.95	137.45	182.95
451-455	46.95	92.95	138.95	184.95
456-460	47.45	93.95	140.45	186.95
461-465	47.95	94.95	141.95	188.95
466-470	48.45	95.95	143.45	190.95
471-475	48.95	96.95	144.95	192.95
476-480	49.45	97.95	146.45	194.95
481-485	49.95	98.95	147.95	196.95
486-490	50.45	99.95	149.45	198.95
491-495	50.95	100.95	150.95	200.95
496-500	51.45	101.95	152.45	202.95
501-505	51.95	102.95	153.95	204.95
506-510	52.45	103.95	155.45	206.95
511-515	52.95	104.95	156.95	208.95
516-520	53.45	105.95	158.45	210.95
521-525	53.95	106.95	159.95	212.9

Warsaw warns visitors off Solidarity after Rifkind row

From Roger Boyes, Warsaw

The Polish Government, still a little shocked by the outspoken criticism of the British Minister of State at the Foreign Office, Mr Rifkind, said yesterday that future high-level visitors from the West should not meet representatives for the outlawed Solidarity trade union.

"It is not customary to have meetings with representatives of extra-legal structures," Mr Jerzy Urban, the government spokesman, told a news conference. "If representatives of the Polish Government were to visit Britain they would not try to acquaint themselves with the Irish situation by meeting the IRA," future ministerial visits should take place in accordance with "the mutually agreed programme".

Mr Rifkind met three Solidarity advisers during the non-official part of his visit to Warsaw earlier this month and said later he was simply seeking the views of as broad as possible a spectrum of Polish society.

However, he also expressed scepticism about the new post-Solidarity trade union movement, detected a wide gulf between the leaders and the led in Poland, and demonstratively laid a wreath on the grave of the pro-Solidarity priest, Jerzy

Popieluszko, who was murdered last month, allegedly by secret policemen.

The Polish Government is concerned that each Western ministerial visitor will now feel obliged to raise publicly human rights issues and give the impression that it is still coming under pressure from Nato. The West German Foreign Minister, Herr Hans-Dietrich Genscher, is due in Poland next week and is expected to press the case of several dozen families of German extraction who want to emigrate. He is also likely to seek a speedy resolution to the occupation of the West German Embassy in Poland by about a dozen East Germans and Poles.

Mr Urban said yesterday of the occupation that Warsaw was not involved in the talks, but would not give in to "blackmail and extortion".

He also said the Government would soon take legal steps against the new KOPF human rights groups which he described as "anti-state structures".

On the Popieluszko kidnap, Mr Urban said police were conducting an in-depth investigation into the background of the main abductor, to find out who was really behind the crime.

Greeks are first to ban torture by law

From Mario Modiano, Athens

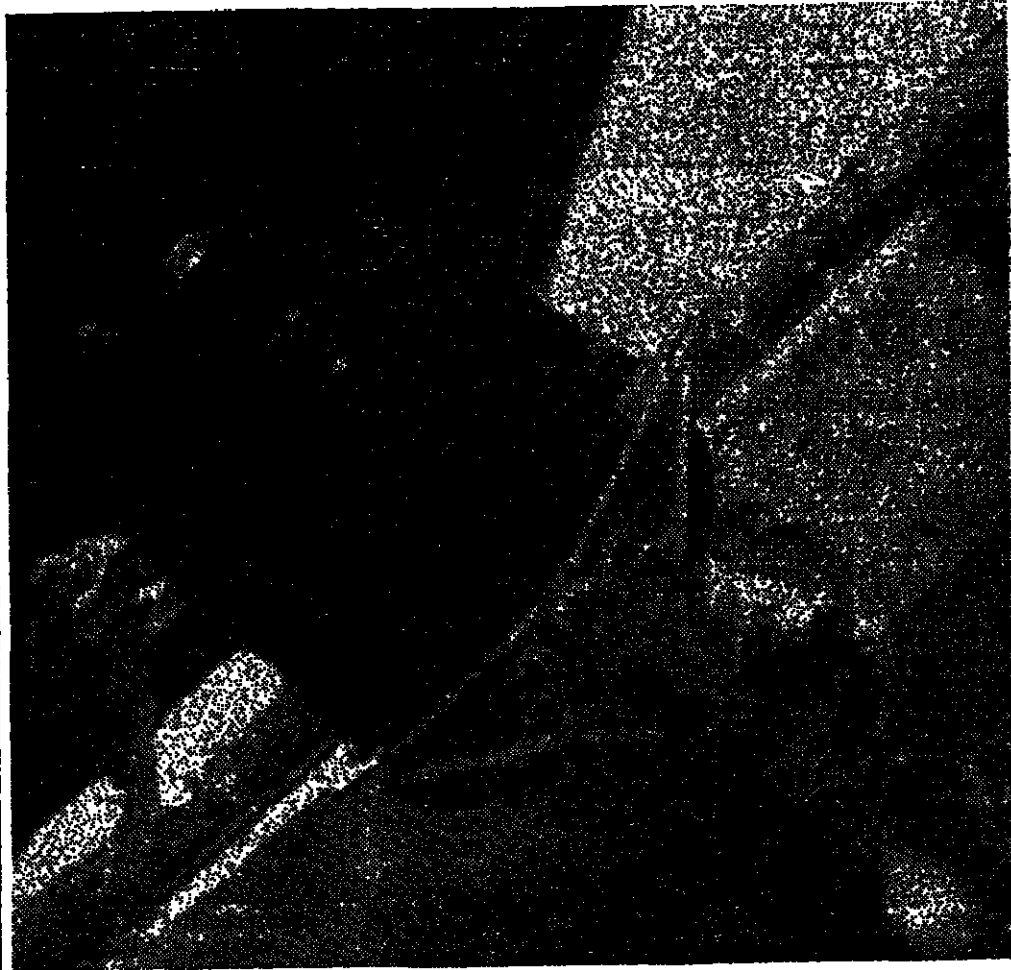
Greece yesterday became the first country in the world to outlaw formally the use of torture on prisoners, when Parliament voted unanimously to make torture a punishable offence.

Under the new law, which requires a second reading before it can be applied, state employees who subject people in their custody to physical or mental torture, are liable to imprisonment from five to 20 years and dismissal from the service, or cashiering in the case of military personnel.

If death occurs as a result of torture, a life sentence becomes mandatory. In the case of systematic use of torture, the minimum sentence is 10 years. Orders from superiors for the application of torture are illegal and therefore not binding.

The text of the law, listing various forms of torture, is bound to evoke memories of past horrors to many of those jailed by the military junta which ruled Greece between 1967 and 1974, not least Mr George-Alexander Mangakis, the Minister of Justice, who introduced the Bill.

It was with a view to preventing a recurrence of systematic torture under any circumstances that the Greek constitution, approved in 1975, instructed Parliament to pass legislation punishing offences against human dignity.



Novel rescue for second satellite

Astronauts Joe Allen (left) and Dale Gardner manhandling the Palapa communications satellite into the payload bay of Discovery on Monday to bring it back to Earth for repair.

Yesterday mission control agreed with a recommendation from the spacewalkers that they attempt an untried recovery plan when they go after a second stranded satellite today.

Under the plan, Mr Gardner will jet over to the Westar 6 satellite, capturing it with a pole-like device, and then guide it over to Mr Allen on a work station at the end of the shuttle's 50ft robot arm.

With Mr Allen grasping the 21ft satellite firmly Mr Garner will attach a docking collar on the base of the craft and the two astronauts will berth it manually in the cargo bay for return to earth.

Buhari defends OAU over Polisario and blames Hassan

Addis Ababa (AP, AFP) -

The Nigerian leader, Major-General Mohammed Buhari, yesterday defended the Organization of African Unity's decision to seat Western Sahara guerrillas, saying it showed the maturity of the grouping.

Nigeria gave its backing to the Saharan Arab Democratic Republic only hours before Monday's opening of the twentieth OAU summit and thus helped to assure its admission.

"At 21, our organization has indeed come of age. Their maturity was demonstrated at the opening session of the summit. We have not allowed our differences of opinion to prevent our organization from meeting," General Buhari told a news conference.

The Nigerian leader, on his first trip abroad since taking power in a military coup in December last year, said his country had decided to recognize the SADR fighting for control of the Western Sahara - because Morocco had failed to fulfil promises to hold an independence referendum in the former Spanish colony or hold direct talks with the SADR's guerrilla wing, the Polisario Front.

Efforts to negotiate a compromise were "made very difficult by the kingdom of Morocco".

King Hassan withdrew from the OAU on Monday in protest at the seating of the guerrillas.

General Buhari made clear that delegates had resolved the Sahara issue and planned to move on to political and economic questions. He has been elected OAU vice-chairman.

He predicted the SADR would step up its war, but added that its best prospect was to fight "until they come to some agreement with Morocco".

The general, wearing a white robe instead of his usual military fatigues, was asked twice if Nigeria would give direct aid to the Polisario Front, but said he would not make any firm commitments.

"If the OAU sits and agrees on having combined forces to go (into Western Sahara), Nigeria will participate, as we did in Chad," he said without elaboration. Nigeria sent in a peace-keeping force during Chad's civil war.

There was little likelihood, however, of the OAU considering any intervention in Western Sahara.

Famine in Africa

Food shortages worsen despite massive aid

From Charles Harrison, Nairobi

A new assessment of Africa's food needs, issued here yesterday by the UN Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), says food shortages are still worsening in many countries affected by drought, despite the massive food aid programmes now under way in Ethiopia, Chad and other countries.

The latest review of food production and needs in the African region says the situation is worst in Ethiopia, Chad, Mali, Mauritania and Mozambique. But Burundi, Kenya, Morocco and Rwanda are now added to the growing list of African countries needing what the FAO calls "exceptional food and rehabilitation assistance".

Within the past few months, international food aid for Africa has increased dramatically, and the FAO reports that donations for agricultural rehabilitation and post-emergency measures, designed to restore local food production, have risen from \$113 million (£89m) to \$190m.

One of the dangers of the present famine is that farmers are eating their remaining seed stocks, leaving themselves with

Hume seeks more help from Thatcher

Cardinal Hume, the Roman Catholic Archbishop of Westminster, asked Mrs Thatcher yesterday to increase government aid to Ethiopia.

In a meeting at 10 Downing Street, the Prime Minister was also urged to press for more help from Britain's partners in the European Community. Last month the Government pledged an extra £5m for drought-affected areas in Africa and 6,500 tonnes of food aid for Ethiopia.

no seed for planting when the rain does come.

Another problem is that livestock herds have been reduced drastically because there is insufficient grazing to keep the animals alive. If supplementary food is available, this loss can be reduced, the FAO says.

Summing up, the FAO reports that Angola, Botswana, Lesotho, Mozambique, Zambia and Zimbabwe will need about 1.1 million tons of food aid over the coming year to make up for the poor 1984 harvests.

The role of British charities

By Tony Samstag

British aid and development charities, large and small, have been working tirelessly, not only to raise money for famine relief in Ethiopia, but also to see that equipment and supplies reach their destination as quickly as possible. Some charities involved in their shipments:

● Oxfam. £2m raised, of which £1.7m allocated. 10,000 tonnes of wheat via port of Assab distributed to southern famine areas; 65 1/2 tonnes of Oxfam "energy biscuits" have reached Korem camp in the Wollo region, with another 100 tonnes due mid-December; two nutrition teams of three each dispatched.

● Save the Children Fund. £2m raised, £1.7m allocated. Shipment of eight lorries and 1,500 tonnes milled wheat due Assab by early December. 21 tonnes high-energy foodstuffs flown to Addis Ababa. Seven British staff dispatched to join team of 60 Ethiopian nutritionists at Korem; five more left yesterday.

● Christian Aid. £1m total. £650,000 dispatched, mostly as cash grants to relief organizations in Eritrea and Tigré via Sudan, but £100,000 in equipment and supplies.

● British Red Cross. £500,000, of which £230,000 spent on shipments of stoves, tents, bedding and feeding equipment flown from Stansted and now at Bati camp, Wollo, via Addis. Additional flights to Addis scheduled tomorrow.

● War on Want. £620,000, most of which allocated for grain to Eritrea and Tigré. First 1,000 tonnes due Port Sudan "any day now", remaining 4,000 tonnes in about five weeks.

● World Vision of Britain. £160,000, most of which sent to Addis office to supply and service five feeding and medical centres in Wollo, Shoa and Gondar.

● Ethiopia's Jews, page 12

Science report, page 14

Sudan tribe may face extinction

From Alan McGregor, Geneva

Details of yet another famine-afflicted area in Africa, in the hills south of Port Sudan, have been given here by a Swedish Red Cross medical team which spent two weeks there. They fear that the entire Beja tribe of nomads, an estimated 750,000 people, may be threatened with extinction.

"There are hardly any children under two; they've died," Dr Sven Ashberg said. "Though numbers are obviously smaller, individual suffering is as bad as it was in Biafra."

Describing the Beja as a "forgotten group", the League of Red Cross Societies, appealing for funds, says the worst-affected areas of north-east Sudan, where some 220,000 people, are Derudet, Haiya and Sinkat.

Relief officials here have welcomed the American proposal for an emergency conference to ensure proper coordination of aid. "Appeals are coming almost daily from one organization or another, an official said. They're confusing and the public will become impervious."

Stopping briefly in Geneva and Rome on his way home, the Ethiopian Relief Commissioner, Mr Dawit, Wolde-Georgis Dawit, said it must be emphasized that the present catastrophe was the result of the failure of the small rainy season in March and April. The impact of the lack of rain in June and July, the main season, would be felt only in January.

Pointing out that the relief agencies estimated minimum food requirements at 60,000 tonnes a month over the next year, the commissioner said the total of governments' pledges was still far short of this.

According to the UN Disaster Relief Office (Undro) here, pledges now stand at 208,000 tonnes. It puts the requirement at 500,000 tonnes up to June.

EEC says 'Save It'

Brussels - Speed limits, bus lanes, a reduction in motorway tolls and border checks, and synchronized traffic light systems are under consideration by EEC member states as ways of saving energy (Jan Murray writes).

There are some of the practical steps for reducing the Community's oil import bill which are being recommended in a set of guidelines put before energy ministers meeting in Brussels yesterday.

The guidelines also argue for construction codes to be drawn up to ensure that energy-saving techniques are followed in putting up new buildings. Economic water heaters and central heating systems would have to be installed, alongside heat-saving ventilation and air conditioning units.

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مركز الامم المتحدة

Commentary

Geoffrey Smith

President Mannerheim of Finland, who is paying an official visit to Britain this week, is an unusual head of state. His style is unpretentious. His smile comes readily, even on occasion taking the form of a friendly grin. His conversation is relaxed. One would never mistake him for a hard-headed business executive.

This is a true reflection of the man. It is also the deliberate act of the politician. He has seen it as his role to take the drama out of the presidency, as he indicated in his interview with me in Helsinki which is published in *The Times* Special Supplement on Finland today.

He succeeded as President a man who had held the office for a quarter of a century and who did more than any other person to determine Finland's position in the post-war world.

In his rugged way President Kekkonen performed a historic service for the country. He recognized that the bleak logic of geography required Finland to establish a close relationship with the Soviet Union if it was to preserve its freedom. So he devoted himself to winning the confidence of successive Soviet leaders.

In his way he steered Finland through a number of crises. But his personal style bred tensions within the country. He created the impression that Finnish security hung by a thread, and that it depended upon his continued presence in office. So he fostered an atmosphere of insecurity at the same time as he safeguarded the country's freedom.

Change of style, same policy

President Koivisto has changed the style while maintaining the policy. This was the second time I had been to Helsinki since he took over, and on each occasion the political mood has been more relaxed than in the past.

That may be attributed partly to a sense of relief that the post-Kekkonen period has passed off without any traumas. But there is more to it than that. Whereas stable relations with the Soviet Union were made to seem a personal achievement under President Kekkonen, they now look to be a fact of life under President Koivisto.

He has done this by playing down his own role. When he said to me that he had been trying to "develop those traits in our constitution that have something to do with the parliamentary system" he was not uttering a political cliché.

Finland is a country, in this respect like France, with a directly elected, politically active President, and a government based upon Parliament. Dr Koivisto was meaning that he had been deliberately according a larger part to the Government within this system.

To play down the role of the presidency in this way is something that only a very popular President could afford to do. But it is in the national interest at this stage in Finland's history.

It reduces the personal element in Finnish foreign policy and thereby emphasizes the truth that the substance of this policy will not change whoever is president, which must strengthen the country's security.

It also removes the conspiratorial factor from Finnish politics. President Kekkonen not only used to intervene frequently in Finnish politics, but also sometimes gave the impression that to oppose him might put the country's security in jeopardy. This encouraged the atmosphere of a political court, in which it was critical to be in the President's favour. Nothing of that sort happens under President Koivisto.

In the mainstream of development

Yet despite this transformation in style, the basic policy remains unchanged. It has to. Finland continues to move economically more and more into the mainstream of West European development. Its recent economic performance is in most respects an example to Britain.

In internal politics Finland has remained a West European democracy.

But the diplomatic constraints under which Finnish government has to be conducted were evident from President Koivisto's refusal to condemn the Soviet Union over Afghanistan while condemning the United States over Grenada.

He has accepted these constraints, recognizing the realities that geography has imposed upon Finland. It will always have to be careful of its relationship with the Soviet Union. But President Koivisto is exercising that care in a way that impinges no more than is necessary upon Finnish affairs.



Guard of honour: President Koivisto of Finland inspecting the RAF Regiment at Heathrow airport yesterday at the start of his official visit to Britain.

Svetlana tracked down in Moscow

From Richard Owen, Moscow

The hunt for Stalin's daughter, Mrs Svetlana Alliluyeva, who had gone to ground since her return to Russia was announced nearly two weeks ago, ended yesterday outside the pink, fin de siècle facade of the Sovetskaya Hotel after she had been spotted by an American television crew.

To the puzzlement of Russians, Western correspondents descended on the hotel, to be rewarded with a glimpse of

Svetlana in the protective company of the KGB, but disappointed by a brisk "no comment".

The return of Svetlana, aged 38, and her 13-year-old American-born daughter Olga, was announced on November 2 by Moscow television. They were said to have returned just over a week before on an Aeroflot flight from London. The Kremlin restored Svetlana's Soviet citizenship, even though she had bitterly denounced her homeland as a prison after

defecting in 1967, and conferred citizenship on Olga.

It was said that Svetlana and her daughter were staying at a dacha with her two Russian-born children by previous marriages: Josif, a cardiologist, and Ekaterina, a geologist.

As the price of her forgiveness Svetlana Alliluyeva would give a press conference to reveal the truth about her 17 "nightmare years" in the West. But then came reports that Josif and Ekaterina disagreed with their mother's decision to bring Olga.

Zapu pair on brink of joining Mugabe

From Jan Raath, Harare

The two remaining Zapu members serving in the Zimbabwe Government appeared fixed yesterday on a course of defection to the ruling Zanu (PF) party.

The two — Miss Jane Ngunwenya, the Deputy Minister of Manpower, Planning and Development, and Mr Daniel Mngwenya, the Provincial Governor of Matabeleland North, were not included in the dismissal on Monday of the last two full Zapu Cabinet ministers, Mr Cephas Msiipa and Mr John Nkomo.

Mr Msiipa and Mr Nkomo (no relation to Mr Joshua Nkomo, the Zapu president) received their marching orders after Mr Robert Mugabe, the Prime Minister, blamed Zapu for the murder on Friday of a senator in the southern border town of Beitbridge and said he was breaking ties with Zapu.

The two Ngunwenyas, who are not related, have been increasingly isolated by Zapu for some time. Miss Ngunwenya was Zapu's Assistant Secretary for Welfare on the Party's powerful national executive committee, while Mr Ngunwenya was a member of the lesser central committee. As a governor, he remained an MP and was accorded Deputy Minister status.

Neither attended Zapu's congress last month, nor were they re-elected.

India's general election

Riding wave of sympathy

From Michael Hamlyn, Delhi

Journalists and diplomats sat in a well-carpeted drawing room in the diplomatic quarter of Delhi this week, and they all agreed on one thing. To postpone the general election in India could only lose votes for the new Prime Minister, Mr Rajiv Gandhi, and his party, Congress (I).

The immense sympathy vote, which almost everyone expects to return Congress to power after the assassination of his mother, would dissipate faster than Mr Gandhi's own reputation could be established.

Certainly, the new Prime Minister could not have ordered elections any more quickly. The announcement has come on the first full day without mourning. A week has been left before the official notification day.

Technically, the decision to hold elections towards the end of the term of a parliament has nothing to do with the Prime Minister. According to the constitution, it is up to the Chief Election Commissioner.

When the incumbent, Mr R. K. Trivedi, made his announcement yesterday, I asked him whether he had decided the date or Mr Gandhi. He said the election commission had chosen. "In fact," he said, "I have not met the new Prime Minister."

Mr Trivedi is, however, a man whose partisanship has been called into question before. According to observers, his appointment from his earlier post as Central Vigil-

ance Commissioner, head of the anti-corruption squad, was in violation of an undertaking to Parliament that no Central Vigilance Commissioner would ever be given another government job.

He and his commissioners have an immense task to try to ensure the fairness of the polls.

The question of who will win the election is one that is going to exercise all the pundits who were sitting in the diplomatic drawing room, and many others too. The conventional wisdom is that Mr Gandhi will win.

But, this said, Congress is the only national party whose allegiance crosses all classes, religious and castes, and which stretches into all parts of all states.

The hope for the Opposition is to try to combine into what looks something like a national party but which has strong regional roots. Mr N. T. Rama Rao, Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh, has made a proposal which goes some way towards this goal. He has suggested that there should be a "core" opposition combination of three national and three regional parties, around which the rest of the Opposition could congregate.

The national parties mentioned are Chowdhury Charan Singh's DMKP, the Janata Party and Mr Sharada Pawar's Congress (S). The regional parties should be Mr Raj's Telugu Desam, the National Conference of Farooq Abdullah in Kashmir and the DMK opposition party in Tamil Nadu.

A meeting will be held here today at which this proposal may well be taken up and given flesh. It would probably work well enough in the south, and the core would play second fiddle to the Communist Party in Kerala and West Bengal, but in the Hindi belt across Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Rajasthan and Madhya Pradesh, in Haryana and Orissa, there are obvious shoals on which the agreement could founder.

Rogers digs in to defend battle plan

From Frederick Bonnard, Brussels

In a spirited defence of his plan of attack on the Warsaw Pact follow-on forces, General Bernard Rogers, Supreme Allied Commander Europe, said: "We won't fire the first shot, because ours is not a preemptive doctrine."

The "Rogers Plan", approved by Nato last Friday, has been criticized as unrealistic, inappropriate, and provocative. General Rogers said it was none of these but "part of an overall effort to increase our ability to deter aggression in Europe", by complementing "our conventional capability to defend at our general defensive positions".

The plan is designed to deal with the enemy's rear echelons — the follow-on forces — and consists of three elements, all using modern technology.

- To acquire targets in the depth of the battlefield;
- To feed this information instantly to field commanders over reliable communications;
- To strike at these targets with new long-distance weapon systems, mostly missiles.

The critics claimed it was a new strategy which failed to take present Soviet doctrine into account, would weaken the Allied forward defences, was based on the deep strike, nuclear-assisted American air-land battle doctrine, and relied on unproven and highly expensive emergent technology.

● LONDON: Nato could not afford to do without nuclear weapons because of the extra men and conventional weapons which would be needed, General Leopold Chalupa, Commander-in-Chief in Central Europe, said in London yesterday (Henry Stanhope writes).

Changes in alliance strategy were neither necessary nor appropriate, he told the Royal United Services Institute.



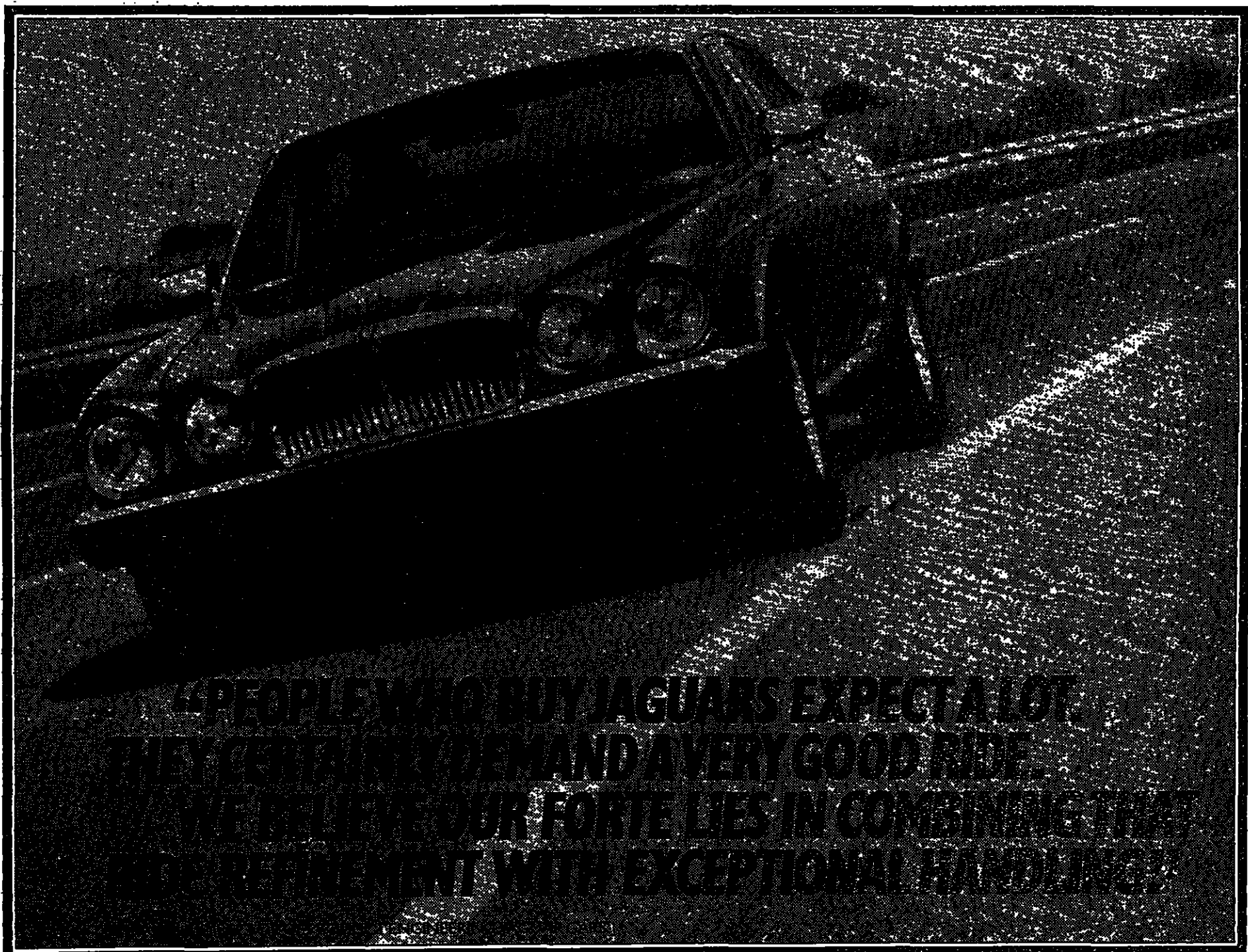
General Chalupa: Nuclear weapons essential.

Owner charged after Turk shot at factory

Versailles (Reuters) — A factory owner, his son and a night watchman have been charged in connexion with a shooting incident in which a Turkish worker was killed and three others injured.

The Cameronian night watchman, Jacques Nazhad, was charged with murder and attempted murder in Versailles after the shooting at a factory at Epone, west of Paris, on Saturday.

Jean-Pierre Pirault, son of the factory owner, was charged with conspiracy to murder and with attempted murder and his father, Pierre Pirault, was accused of concealing evidence to pervert the course of justice. Police sources said Kemal Ouzul, the Turk who died, was shot at point-blank range. He and other workers, mostly immigrants, were trying to occupy the factory to demand back-payment of wages.



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We know that people who buy Jaguars are very demanding. They expect a lot. They certainly demand a very good ride.

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geometry, damping and tyre characteristics. It demands a subtle understanding from our engineers, understanding that has grown from years of experience.

With a Jaguar, you can take for granted what other manufacturers offer as an extra or an option.

To our way of thinking, a desirable and functional feature is not something to shout about but rather what every car, certainly what every Jaguar, should have.

We were amongst the first to have such features as disc brakes, electronic fuel-injection and anti-dive suspension geometry as standard on our production cars.

Take, for instance, the silence of a Jaguar — it is uniquely Jaguar and is achieved, not by accident but by engineering design. Largely it's a question of siting the inevitable resonant systems at the right position in the frequency range so that you don't have too much interference, and by using the major masses in the system as attenuators.

If you've got to carry heavy things around, like axles and engines, then you should use them to benefit ride, handling and noise.

Again, it's all a question of detail.

Even the way the door opens is important: it's got to sound and feel as if it's been thoroughly engineered and has the right level of quality and craftsmanship.

That kind of attention to detail is an important part of our cars.

And to some extent explains, and underlines, what it is that makes a Jaguar so uniquely a Jaguar.

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Cautious Hawke pledges continued growth and more for young and old

From Tony Duboudin, Melbourne

Mr Bob Hawke, the Australian Prime Minister, promised "growth, equality and peace" if the Labour government were re-elected on December 1. He was making his policy speech, which contained no costly promises, but relied heavily on Labour's record over the past 20 months.

The 45-minute speech, delivered to 1,500 specially invited guests at the Sydney Opera House yesterday, did promise an increase in spending for the aged, more child-care facilities and more resources for combating organised crime.

Mr Hawke said he was not in the business of making "grandiose" spending proposals of the kind being "thrown around" by the Opposition.

Labour's priorities in its next term, he said, would be the maintenance of strong economic and employment growth, with low inflation, a genuine reform of the taxation system and a concerted effort to attack the causes of poverty and inequality.

Mr Hawke also promised to give priority to raising the level of education, health and other services for all Australians and to continue, with renewed vigour, efforts in the cause of peace and nuclear disarmament.

He said he had asked in February last year for an act of great trust from the Australian people and had asked for

support, cooperation and active participation of the people in a new national approach, which had never been tried in Australia in peacetime - the course of national reconciliation, national recovery and national reconstruction.

The last 20 months have seen the supreme vindication of that trust.

The Prime Minister compared the Labour Party's record of achievement, which, he said,



had placed Australia among the front-runners of the world's industrialized economies, with the alternative "recipe for economic disaster" offered by the Liberal and National parties.

Unlike the coalition, his Government was not going to endanger all that had been achieved by a "vote-buying spree." "We are not offering a grab-bag of unrelated, unachievable election promises. We are not offering a list of dollars."

However, the Prime Minister did say that a re-elected Labour Government would, among other things:

● Keep the levy for Medicare, the national health system, at its

present level for the term of the Government;

● Contribute \$A300m (about £200m) over the next three years for a home and community care programme for the aged and establish an office of the aged;

● Establish a pilot scheme to encourage unemployed people to set up their own businesses, and explore with the private sector the possibility of extending the community employment programme;

● Create over the next three years an additional 20,000 child-care places;

● Remain committed to an unrelenting attack on organized crime by giving the federal police an extra \$A17m;

● Call together, soon after the election, the state premiers to cooperate with the Federal Government in initiating a national campaign against drug abuse;

The Prime Minister also sought to reassure the aged on the assets test for pensioners, he said social security inspectors would not visit pensioners' homes that information gathered for the assets test would not be used for any other purpose; that the assets test would not be made more stringent and that, through the proposed office of aged care, the test would be monitored to ensure that it was being fairly administered.



Charity drive: Severiano Ballesteros, winner of this year's British Open Championship, with Mr Shintaro Abe, the Japanese Foreign Minister, in Tokyo yesterday after giving some of his prize money to Japan's African relief campaign. The American golfer, Fred Couples, and two Japanese professionals, also contributed to the fund. Mr Abe leaves today for a 10-day visit to Africa, including a tour of drought-stricken Ethiopia.

Juan Carlos links Gibraltar with Hongkong deal

From Richard Wigg, Madrid

King Juan Carlos of Spain linked Gibraltar and the Anglo-Chinese agreement on Hongkong when he made a speech on Monday night in which he toasted President Li Xianxin of China, who is on an official visit to this country.

"China's restoration of its territorial integrity has been a process which Spain has fol-

lowed, and will go on following with interest and feelings of solidarity because of the analogies and parallels existing for both countries of the consequences of past colonialism," the King said.

Señor Fernando Morán, Spain's Foreign Minister, on his return from an EEC ministerial meeting in Brussels, emphasised yesterday how recovering Gibraltar remained a natural aspiration for Spain.

Speaking on Radio Nacional, he said this was even more of a priority for Spaniards than joining the Community. "I hope there is no temptation to bring pressure so that our entry into the EEC would mean abandoning our position on Gibraltar."

Señor Morán said he expected his next meeting with Sir Geoffrey Howe, the Foreign Secretary, at the end of this month in Brussels would

produce an agreement to raise Spain's restrictions on movements to and from Gibraltar and would also open the way for a negotiating process on all the remaining issues - another reference to Spain's claim to sovereignty over the Rock.

Señor Morán has personally followed the Hongkong negotiations in the hope that Madrid's claim to sovereignty over Gibraltar can be advanced.

Ecology and pacifism issues rock Japan

From David Watts, Tokyo

The potent combination of pacifism and ecology have given Japanese party machine politics two of its rudest shocks since the 1960s.

The setting for the first of these shocks for the Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) was the seaside resort town of Zushi, a sort of Japanese Bognor Regis with its imperial palace near by for members of the royal family wanting to escape from the summer humidity of Tokyo and beaches which feature Mount Fuji as backdrop on clear days.

The people of Zushi are proud of their town and its hinterland of relatively untouched woodland, untouched that is except for an American ammunition depot which has been sited since 1978.

The Ikego Hills are one of the few natural areas left in the Tokyo plain, so when the Government announced plans to build housing for American Navy families in the hills it sparked a grassroots protest movement that first forced the resignation of the long-time Mayor of Zushi, who supported the plan, and then elected a maverick opponent of the Government's plans in his place.

The Nakasone Government has been shaken by the snuffing, if slim, victory of Mr Kikuchi Tomino not only because there is a commitment to the Americans under the Japan-US security treaty to provide whatever facilities US forces need in Japan, but also because it focuses unfavourable attention on the military when Tokyo is trying to push up defence spending beyond that generally acceptable to the public. Public opposition has also prevented the government giving the US Navy the night flying facilities it needs.

Mr Tomino rode to victory in Zushi with a margin of just over a thousand votes over his opponent on the support of housewives who have already petitioned the Pentagon against the plan.

"Postwar democracy is not as weak as people think," Mr Tomino said, committing himself to a full-scale fight against the planned 920 houses, even if he has to fly to the Pentagon himself to present his case.

Much now depends upon whether Mr Tomino's battle becomes a national issue and is taken up on a broader front. His own most pressing problem is in overcoming opposition within the Zushi city council.

US asked to cut arms for Taiwan

From Mary Lee, Peking

Mr Zhao Ziyang, the Chinese Prime Minister, told a visiting delegation from the US Senate yesterday that if it was difficult for the US Government to abolish the Taiwan Relations Act, it should at least comply with the principle that there was only one China.

Mr Zhao also told Senator Jake Garn, chairman of the Senate committee on banking, housing and urban affairs, that the US Government should observe the August 1982 Sino-US joint communiqué, reducing arms sale to Taiwan.

Coincidentally, a US congressional mission is now visiting Taiwan to discuss, among other things, arms sales.

Stresa summit to lay ghost of united Germany

From Peter Nichols, Rome

The talks at Stresa today led by Chancellor Helmut Kohl, of West Germany, and Signor Bettino Craxi, the Italian Prime Minister, should show whether the quarrel over an Italian comment on the future of the two Germanies has been laid to rest.

Official spokesmen maintain that the clash in September is now so much water under the bridges. By coincidence, Signor Craxi made a flying visit yesterday to Bolzano, near the Austrian frontier, where indignation among the German-speaking citizens at the time of the quarrel resulted in public protest.

The Stresa meeting today will be devoted more to Community affairs than to the question of relations with the East after President Reagan's reelection; but that now aging two-headed eagle of a divided Germany will probably make its presence felt in one form or another.

The origin of the autumn storm was the impromptu remark by Signor Giulio Andreotti, the Italian Foreign Minister, who will also be at Stresa today. A Christian Democrat, he took part in a public debate on foreign policy at a festival on September 13 in Rome by the Communist Party. At the time there was still talk of a visit to West Germany by Herr Erich Honecker, the East German leader. When asked by a member of the audience about the prospects of the visit, Signor Andreotti replied: "All agreed that the two Germanies should

have good relations. This is a contribution to peace which no one underestimates."

"Be clear that there should be no exaggeration in the direction. Pan-Germanism is something which must be overcome. There are two German states and two German states must remain."

In Bonn Herr Hans Dietrich Genscher, the Foreign Minister, told the Italian Ambassador that the remark had caused deep offence. Today will be the first time that the two heads of government have met since the incident. No doubt the official spokesmen are right in saying that neither side has any intention of reopening the matter as such. Nevertheless it will surely have to be touched on in some way, presumably in the time devoted to the survey of East-West relations.



Signor Andreotti: Storm after impromptu remark

Afghan children sent for 10-year Soviet schooling

From Michael Hamlyn, Delhi

Nearly 1,000 Afghan children between the ages of seven and nine have been sent to Soviet Central Asia for 10 years of education. The Afghan media said it was a gesture of unqualified magnanimity by the Russians but Western diplomats here claimed it was "an attempt to employ heroic new methods to indoctrinate Afghan youth."

President Babrak Karmal's wife was at the airport to see the 870 children off. They will be the first batch of a number of similar groups to be sent to the Soviet Union.

Western diplomats were scornful of the shipping out of children, saying that in view of the public disdain of things Russian often expressed in Afghanistan, the authorities appear to have concluded that "nothing less than a decade of sovietization would make a dent on Afghan youth."

There are already several thousand young Afghans studying in the Soviet Union, but they are mostly of secondary school and university age. This is the first time children of primary school age have been sent out of the country on such a scale.

Meanwhile, diplomats here claimed that Soviet and Afghan troops summarily executed 450 Mujahidin guerrillas who had surrendered and handed over their arms after a battle in the mountains of north-western Afghanistan.

The sources said the massacre occurred early in October after government forces had overrun a rebel bastion. It is alleged that as soon as the local Soviet military commander ordered the 450 survivors to be executed on the spot. This was allegedly carried out by Afghan troops.

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THE ARTS

The 'golden oldies' of British cinema are descending in their hundreds upon New York, creating such a vogue that Jessie Matthews has been elevated to a state of 'semi-divinity': Geoff Brown reports

Lavish celebration of a glorious past

British cultural exports have long played a prominent part in New York's theatre scene, and now the city is witnessing another — and stranger — kind of British invasion.

A large picture of Alec Guinness in one of his *Kind Hearts and Coronets* roles (Lady Agatha d'Ascoyne, glaring frostily under a commanding hat) recently ate up the centre-page spread of the *Village Voice*; Jessie Matthews, in the same newspaper, was declared to be "semi-divine". And audiences here have been queuing to see the British cinema's golden oldies: *The Good Companions* (1933), with that same semi-divine Matthews, a chattering Max Miller and John Gielgud splendidly attired in a Pierrot costume; the sturdy northern drama *Hindle Wakes* (1931), in which Edmund Gwenn calls Sybil Thorndike "mother"; *The Rat* (1926), with Ivor Novello prancing through Paris dives in pants that would be the envy of many a Greenwich Village boutique.

Such wonders have come about through the heartening advent of "British Film" — an enormous retrospective of some 300 features, showing at the Museum of Modern Art until early in 1986. The venture is co-directed by the Museum's Department of Film and our own National Film Archive, with funding from Pearson, Goldcrest Films and EMI. Both the MDA and the NFA celebrate their fiftieth birthdays in 1985, and there could be no better, or crazier, birthday present than this bulk presentation of British cinema, mostly using imported Archive prints. From March 8 next year, the Museum explores the various threads running through British film history (realism, music-hall, melodrama, the theatrical

adaptation); audiences will be subjected to everything from the 1913 *East Lynne* to the 1983 *Educating Rita*, from Anna Neagle's snowdrop charms to the fangs and garlic of Hammer horrors. At the moment, however, the spotlight is exclusively fixed on the producer Michael Balcon, and his pursuit of a national cinema through four decades of production; the Museum is showing 81 films, made between 1926 and 1963.

Balcon is an astute choice for such a grand Anglo-American celebration, though not entirely for the obvious reasons. At Ealing, of course, he championed films that drew their strength — and ultimately their vices — from a cosy conception of British life, from a world of corner shops, friendly coppers, privet hedges, timid emotions and nice cups of tea. Postwar Americans fell upon the eccentricities and mild anarchy of the Ealing comedies with as much glee as anyone, though in some cases the footage had to be tightened to suit the national pace. "The Americans are impatient by nature," wrote the Ealing editor, Michael Truman in 1949, after trimming *Passport to Pimlico*; "they are used to having their characters introduced quickly. It was thus entirely appropriate that Sir Alec Guinness was on hand to open the Museum's festivities and introduce screenings of *Kind Hearts and Coronets*, to the audiences it was as if some fabulous creature like Sanchez Panza or Lewis Carroll's White Knight had stepped down from the land of legend."

Yet there is more to Balcon's career than Ealing; and in earlier years he acted, like the other major British producers, as a reluctant apostle of transatlantic cinema. As production



The unknown — and remarkably erotic — Hitchcock of *The Pleasure Garden* (1926): later censors would have been shocked at the proximity of Miles Mander and Virginia Valli

chief of the Gaumont-British Picture Corporation, he signed up wagonloads of American stars, writers and directors to give his films a supposed advantage at the American box-office; he also dallied unhappily at the court of Louis B. Mayer and produced *A Yank at Oxford* — a film far more yank than Oxford. Balcon's "pursuit of British cinema" — as the film series and its accompanying publication is subtitled — certainly came about through natural inclination, but it also came about through sheer trial and error.

One can see the trials, errors and triumphs in the earliest film included in the Museum's Balcon cycle, *The Pleasure Garden*, made in 1926. On the surface nothing could be more cosmopolitan. The stars were American (Virginia Valli, Carmelita Geraghty), the cameraman was Italian (Baron Ventimiglia); studio work was accomplished in Munich, with locations at Genoa, San Remo and Lake Como. Yet, for all the multi-national ingredients, this melodramatic tale

about two chorus girls remains a film with a distinct, unified tone, and for that one must thank its young director, billed as "Alfred J. Hitchcock". This is Hitchcock's first film; screenings are not as rare as recent pronouncements by the American distributor Raymond Rohauer have indicated (the National Film Archive has held material since 1940), but it is still no commonplace item.

Hindsight helps us to identify specific Hitchcock traits: the delight in voyeurism, expressed in the faces of the male audience at the theatre (the pleasure garden of the title), gazing at chorus girls through monocles and binoculars; the opening shot of the girls descending a circular staircase (one thinks of the spirals and staircases of *Vertigo*, of *Psycho*, and much else). For the knowing spectator, such details provide the icing on the cake; what makes the cake itself so nourishing is the film's cynical attitude towards romance and relish for the sleazy backstage life. A title card reads "What Every Chorus Girl

Knows": we then cut to a chorus girl laboriously washing tights with a bar of Lux soap dancing attendance. Throughout, Hitchcock delights in pulling the rug from under us: after a shot of Carmelita Geraghty, the innocent girl who turns bad, kneeling in what seems to be impassioned prayer, we are shown a pet dog vigorously licking her bare feet. Later, Miles Mander, the film's luscious, bigamous villain, swims towards his Far Eastern wife. Ah yes, we think, a fond aquatic embrace: no, a drowning.

The preoccupation with sexual pleasure seems strange in a film produced by Michael Balcon, a man so circumspect in matters of the human body that he was capable, years later, of ordering a re-take to remove the offending word "GEN-TLEMAN" from a railway station location. Yet British film history is full of such surprises. New York audiences are going to experience many more before the massive orgy of "British Film" is over.

Television Familiar footsteps in the snow

No doubt it was a good idea, in *Terra Nova* (BBC1), to chart the course of Scott's last expedition to the South Pole; the problem was really one of dramatizing both that setting and the extremities to which it drove the Captain and his companions. It cannot be said that, on this level, last night's play was a success; where a radio drama, employing the resources of sound and voices only, might have worked, *Terra Nova* as a visual experience was awkward and often crass.

The scenes at the Pole were of a Heath-Robinson absurdity, with the same piece of ice apparently being traversed again and again; at any minute one expected the flimsy scenery to fall down with a few short blasts from the wind-machine. Enter a bearded actor with the ice pasted to his face, saying "Lovely place for a picnic!" It was all very hearty and British but, compared with the polar epics which have appeared on the cinema screen, it had about as much resonance as a snowball thrown against a brick wall.

There were moments when the material itself had an intrinsic interest (it is impossible to watch such deaths without being moved), but this was in general a very wooden enterprise, with actors striding towards the camera and saying important things in very enphatic voices: "I feel like some ludicrous footnote to history", was one of Scott's immortal remarks. In fact this production had "BBC" written all over it, complete with the strident music and the "fantasy" sequences in which Scott and Amundsen confront each other. "Listen to me, English. Success is a bitch."

The script itself did not help matters, therefore, and was on occasions even embarrassing — especially since none of the actors seemed able to rise above it in a convincing manner. This was really an example of stiff-upper-lip melodrama, in which the hero is seen to be a real human being after all. One had the impression that one had seen it all before, and no doubt one had.

Peter Ackroyd

Concert Marble into sugar

Koenig Ensemble
St John's

The trouble with Milhaud is not just that he is a neglected composer but that his whole ambience is neglected. To understand him properly I suspect one would have to know a good bit of Koehlin (there is a good bit to know); it might also help to have some familiarity with the work of Maurice Emmanuel.

Monday night's concert by the Koenig Ensemble went some way in offering us Satie's *Socrate* as prelude to Milhaud's short opera *Les Malheurs d'Orphée*, but in a sense this was the least useful assistance. Satie, after all, is fairly well known, and his influence on Milhaud is pretty obvious: it was to be heard here in the quiet and plain modal ostinatos that preserve so much of both works on an even keel. Moreover, to hear Milhaud in terms of Satie is to suspect him merely of professionalizing Satie's simple-mindedness, perhaps not so much gilding the lily as brassplating the buttercup.

At the same time, to perform Satie in terms of Milhaud, as Jan Latham-Koenig seemed to be doing with his so attentive phrasing, is to turn the cold

square marble of *Socrate* into icing sugar.

Still, it was good to hear *The Sorrows of Orpheus*. Armand Lunel's libretto keeps little of the myth except the names: Orpheus is a village pharmacist and Eurydice a gypsy; she dies; her sisters come like the furies to round on him; and he dies.

Milhaud's music, for small resources, involves itself in the story only tepidly, and deliberately so: the opera is a sequence of very short numbers which the rhythmic monotony and the sweet-and-sour tonality assign to a tawny limbo. The vocal lines may sometimes be mildly emotional, the accompaniment not. Its cold gaze is fixed, as it seems, outwards, towards the Stavinsky of the *Soldier's Tale*, towards jazz and towards, presumably, all those unknown ghosts.

The performance was not ideal. The orchestra could hardly be expected to be at ease with Milhaud's style, and his tonality caused the singers problems of intonation. Still, Henry Herford made a lusty showing as Orpheus, and Rosemary Hardy moved with confidence from the role of dying Socrates to that of dying Eurydice.

Paul Griffiths

When I was a Girl, I used to Scream and Shout

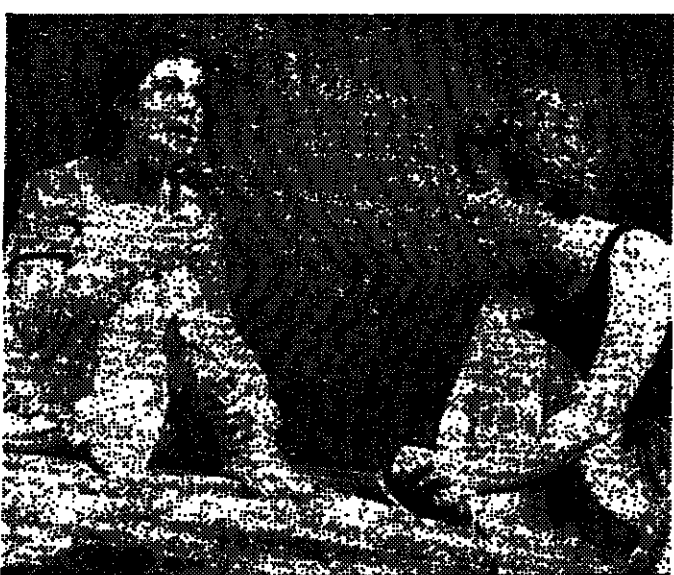
Bush

No London management has a sharper eye for brand-new writers than that of the Bush, and with the latest discovery, Sharman Macdonald, they have picked a real winner.

Her territory is childhood and adolescence, recalled with a comic precision equal to the early novels of Edna O'Brien and deftly presented in the perspective of adult memory. The setting of *When I was a Girl* is a Scottish beach where Morag has brought her unmarried daughter Fiona for a nostalgic weekend. Morag has some scores to settle with her disappointing child; but no sooner does she start voicing them than the figures of Fiona's memory take possession of the stage.

As in all good memory plays, the past emerges not in flashback but in a continuous psychological present, continually overlapping with immediate events. At one moment Morag is pouring out her complaints at being left alone with no grandchild; at the next, she is at young Fiona's bedside, threatening her with hellfire for "jiggling" under the blankets.

A powerfully Scottish blend of sexual fear and fascination runs through the whole play; nowhere more so than in the conspiratorial scenes between Fiona and her best friend, Vani, marvellously played by Eleanor David and Celia Imrie. Beginning with secret doctor's surgery games and ending in Fiona's



Celia Imrie (left) and Eleanor David conspiring marvellously in fear and fascination

carefully stage-managed deflowering, they show the girls moving from curiosity to desire and from swapping parental mumbo-jumbo to devouring books on the female orgasm. The two generations converge when the 15-year-old Fiona deliberately contrives a pregnancy so as to prevent her mother's remarriage.

Although everything builds towards this event, it never comes into dramatic focus. Partly this is because the time shifts leapfrog the crucial scene, which is only referred to in retrospect and in Fiona's wry narrative prayers to Almighty who never moves a finger to help her. I think this is a miscalculation. But the real trouble is that the adult scenes

are under-imagined and sketchy. You never learn what happened to the child, or how Fiona has spent her life since leaving home; nor is it clear whether Morag (Sheila Reid) is to be seen as a character in her own right or as a distorted projection of her daughter's memories.

Simon Stokes's production firmly directs attention towards qualities more important than these loose ends: assisted by a post-blank seascape by Robin Don, and a solitary study in male bewilderment from John Gordon Sinclair, still wearing the face of adolescent turmoil he showed to the world in *Gregory's Girl*.

Irving Wardle

The Kitchen Perth Rep

With their revival of Arnold Wesker's *The Kitchen*, Perth Rep have achieved something of a feat of strength. The play is rarely performed, demanding a competent body of at least thirty actors for it to hold water. Taking the idea that the world is a kitchen, and vice versa, Wesker sets out to present a microcosm below a busy restaurant, introducing a peasant of representative individuals whose numbers are essential to the two climaxes in the play.

The first is at the end of the first act, when the lunchtime rush has them running faster and faster, becoming like cogs in a machine that relentlessly drives on the daily drudge; the second comes at the end of the second act, when Something Happens to disrupt this routine momentarily, as the pressure it applies drives one young German cook to revolt.

It works very well as a spectacle; lively and busy, skilfully orchestrated under Joan Knight's direction to extract most of the comic potential. But, spirited and entertaining as this production is, the final climax does not quite come off. To escape being trite, the play has to convince us that the incredible sight of Peter running beserk is all too credible, given what has gone before. Somehow it does not, and this has to do with the fact that the depth of the play does not match its breadth.

The accumulation of events conveys the petty, dreariness of life beneath the

comedy, but neither the pressures nor the characters seem to have enough substance, and the production does not have quite enough grit to get over this hurdle.

Again, having so many cooks, there is only time to dip in and out of their conversations and their characters. For the most part this does not matter; there are quick, convincing sketches of recognizable and funny figures, handled well by the cast to build up an atmosphere where repartee, friendship, jealousy and insular groups co-exist. But sometimes they wander too close to stereotype, and this detracts from the point

where the production really does gain an edge: when the world-weary pastry cook reveals his sad disillusion with an existence where people cannot see beyond their own concerns.

It is an accomplished production, full of humour and vivacity, handling the sizable staging problems with flair. Yet it does not quite overcome the feeling of insubstantiality — as Wesker maintains, he portrays the world as a kitchen rather than a stage; it nevertheless appears here to be a staged kitchen. The production runs until Saturday.

Sarah Hemming

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Galleries

Thirty-five Paintings Agnew

Mysteries of the British Rail Pension Fund unveiled! Well, not quite, or not completely, for it is still difficult to come by information about exactly what else in the way of fine and decorative arts the Fund owns, but at least the show of *Thirty-five Paintings*, on at Agnew until December 14 in aid of the British Diabetic Association, is the first fair chance we have had to see at least a cross-section of the Fund's paintings all together and judge for ourselves.

The impression is at once striking and puzzling. Unmistakably the Fund has been very well advised in its purchases, since everything in sight is first-rate of its kind. But there are so many kinds, such a catholicity of apparent taste, that one cannot refrain from further speculation. Nearly all the paintings can in fact be seen individually, and often anonymously, on loan to major public collections throughout the country, so that such a formerly unfamiliar work as the *Land-scape with Pan and Syrinx* by Rubens and the elder Brueghel has been recently seizable at the National Gallery, and so on. But what kind of taste links this with, say, Maurice Denis's *Mlle Yvonne Lerolle en trois aspects* (on loan to the Tate) or Ben Marshall's *Alexandre Le Pelletier de Molimide* (on loan to Doncaster) or Leighton's *Dante in Exile* (on loan, suitably enough, to Leighton House)?

Nor, clearly, are all the choices of the safe, conventional type that any film star with enough money might make. True, there are the major Impressionists in force: Monet's radiant *Santa Maria della Salute*, two wonderful Degas drawings, Renoir's *La Promenade*. But there is also Raffaelli's splendid group of old men against a wall, *Les Vieux Officiers*, which can have been neither an obvious nor an expensive choice. And there are fine works by Hans Thoma (*Die Quelle*) and J. W. Waterhouse (*The Orange Gatherers*) which show even more enterprise for a collection the *raison d'être* of which is basically investment. No one, surely, can fail to be enchanted by Van Dyck's sketch of the heads of Charles I's daughters Elizabeth and Anne or Giovanni Domenico Tiepolo's unfinished picture of *The Tiepolo Family*, but there are certainly enough other pieces which would not be to everyone's taste.

In all, then, a pleasant surprise, and a show which sets off at least as many hares as it catches. Apparently there is some very fine French furniture on anonymous loan to the Victoria and Albert, and important oriental bronzes elsewhere. Now that the edge of the veil has been lifted, it would be interesting to know what else is where, and get the full measure of this very extraordinary venture into art as investment.

John Russell Taylor

SPECTRUM



Derek Nimmo (left) has created a very successful business organizing actors to tour the Far East. But as Giles Gordon discovered on the road from Singapore, the farce on stage was often repeated in real life. How do you explain away a suitcase full of vicars' outfits?

But sometimes it wasn't terribly funny . . . there were the muddles, the fears and the odd questions from the inquisitive

Bedpans and bedlam in Kuala Lumpur

When actor Ian Oliver asked the waiter beside the swimming pool at the Regent Hotel, Kuala Lumpur, for a drink, he was asked: "You are Derek Nimmo company?" He agreed he was. The waiter flourishes a bill: "You are Derek Nimmo?" He decided he wasn't.

Another waiter asked Ian if there would be a further television series of *The Saint*. The actor assumed he had been mistaken for Ian Ogilvie. "Roger Moore was much better," said the waiter. Ian may look a little like Ian Ogilvie but he could hardly look less like Derek Nimmo. In the Far East, any actor may be Derek Nimmo.

Nimmo had the idea in 1979 of taking carefully chosen companies of British actors well known for their television work to the Middle and Far East and presenting them in first-class productions of funny plays, mostly farces.

The company of nine actors with which I spent six days watching the final two of eight performances on consecutive evenings in Singapore and the first of six in Kuala Lumpur - was the fourth to venture to these parts this year.

A few days before I arrived, Derek Nimmo, there for the beginning of the tour, summoned the actors to go on a visit to a local potentate. Harry Worth (the Rev Arthur Humphrey) said he would rather not and Derek tried to persuade him. "His palace is outstanding," said Derek.

"Have you seen the Taj Mahal?" asked Harry. "After seeing the Taj Mahal, there is no need to see other palaces. It is amazing," Derek was impressed and Harry was let off

the hook. Later, he confessed to the other actors that although he had seen the Taj it had been from a passing train. He was not one for sightseeing.

This time they presented Philip King's 1944 piece, *See How They Run*, a farce with a Nazi on the loose in the vicarage of Merton-cum-Middlewick. He holds up four men posing as vicars, plus the bishop, a vicar's wife and a maid.

At the climax one of the vicars makes him shriek, "Heil Hitler". As the Nazi's arm was thrust in the air, the vicar tickles him under the armpit and makes him drop his Luger, whereupon a military policeman arrests him.

To attract substantial audiences, they have to be the lightest of fare, the successes including *Move Over Mrs Markham*, *Blithe Spirit*, *No Sex, Please. We're British*, *The Grass is Greener*, *Big Bad Mouse* and *Relatively Speaking*. *Side by Side by Sondheim* has been the only flop. Shakespeare comedies or anything more serious are left to the British Council.

Props and fittings are brought from London but the sets for every venue are built locally on the stages of the ballrooms of the swishest hotels.

Photographs and plans are sent out to every hotel well in advance of the company's arrival, and the quietly lugubrious technical consultant and production manager, Stan Davies - flown in from his native Australia - travels ahead of the actors to every city by three or four days to supervise the building of the set.

Wood is cheap in the Far East, and the sets in Singapore

and Kuala Lumpur were sturdier than those in London. When any of the five doors - the staple ingredient of British as of French farce - was slammed shut or hurled open, which was frequently, nothing rocked or shook.

The company played, joyously, to appreciative audiences of locals and culture-starved expatriates - the locals understanding fewer of the jokes but drinking less at dinner and behaving better. British expats explained, for instance, to Chinese and Malays what "squiffy" meant, and smiles of recognition graced oriental visages long after the lines had disappeared.

Simon Williams (Lance-Corporal Clive Winton) peered through the peephole in the scenery and appraised the audience. "If they catch your eye, you're lost. But look at the natives, absorbing culture."

All luggage had to be outside the rooms of the Singapore Hilton by 6am for transporting to the railway station, some members of the company, including Harry Worth had been up so late the night before that they had not gone to bed. The curtain came down just before 11.30pm and most of the cast would then eat in the hotel's coffee shop, followed by a drink or two.

The younger members of the company might dance with young local girls and chat away the early hours with young 64-year-old Harry Worth. The night before leaving Singapore, Paula Wilcox (Penelope) took her boyfriend Steve, who had just arrived from England, to view the transvestite paradise of Bugis Street, which did not



See how they ran: From top, Harry Worth, Simon Williams, John Barron, Michael Knowles and Ian Oliver

properly - or improperly - get going until 2.30am.

Dominic Atwood, the young company stage manager, had asked everyone to be ready to depart from the hotel lobby by 6.30am. "This is like a film call," said Michael Knowles (the Rev Lionel Toop).

Nimmo's limos, as they were christened, drove to the station at high speed, the morning already sweatily hot. Crocodiles

of silent schoolboys in white T-shirts, shorts, socks and shoes glided by, picking their way purposefully to school through Singapore's greenery and high-rise buildings.

At the station, dozens of pieces of luggage were heaped on to trolleys, and pushed towards the customs. Cases contained the actors' personal belongings, the production's costumes and the props: ant-macassar, telephone, bicycle basket, with gloves, pair of scissors, pictures from the walls of the vicarage, army sergeant's helmet, two rubber hotwater bottles, bottle of smelling salts, *Playboy* magazine, wallet with 10s note, cuckoo clock, bicycle pump and inner tube, gas mask, handbag, two warring pants.

The form filling and checking had taken time and a voice on the Tannoy announced that the Singapore-Kuala Lumpur express was about to leave on its seven-hour journey.

Dominic was not allowed on to the platform as he was travelling late that morning, by aeroplane, the only way by which the play's essential imitation Luger pistol could safely be transported. Even so,

he was seriously worried at the possibility of being found carrying a gun in this part of the world which could result in alarming consequences, such as being hanged.

"Is this your luggage?" a customs officer asked Simon, who happened to be standing amid great piles of suitcases. "Yes", he said cautiously, in his Old Hibernian accent. "I suppose it is."

"What's in it?" asked the official. "Clothes, mostly," replied Simon. "Open . . . that one", said the official, pointing at a particular case. Simon did so, and four vicars' outfits including dog collars were exposed. The official quickly closed the case and chalked a cross on its side, and on all the other cases.

There was the most extraordinary chaos as the actors endeavoured to convey the luggage from platform to train, and to find a lodging place for it all in the luggage racks at the end of every carriage or above the seats already most of the space was taken.

Charmian May (Miss Skillion) and Lucy Fleming and her sons carried as many cases as they could and walked along the platform, in search of the carriage.

"I am determined to pass along the platform carrying the bedpans", said Simon, and did so to the bemusement of the guard. The rubber top of one pan was coming loose; clearly Ian had been hitting his vicars in their heads too hard.

Ian noticed, amid the mêlée and away down the platform, a large bell which he took to be that of Merton-cum-Middlewick church, a prop which plays a crucial part in the play.

"Is that our bell?" explained Simon to the guard. "Ah, the bell", said the guard. He walked up to it, struck it sharply and the train slid out half a minute before its scheduled departure time of 7.30 am.

Ian only just pulled himself and the last of the luggage on to the end of the train. John Barron (the Bishop of Lax), Bob Blythe, (Sergeant Towers) Michael and Harry walked back through the train from their seats near the front to help Ian. Malaysian faces looked quite uninterested and piped Malaysian pop songs blared hideously through the train.

Eventually the luggage was stowed but every time the train stopped at a station actors would leap up and check that nothing was removed.

Worse was to follow: a video screen had been placed at the end of the compartment. With ludicrously loud sound-track, a Chinese version of *Superman* was shown, then a story about Atlantis. There was no escaping the high decibel level throughout the journey. Ray Cooney's advice to the actors came to mind: "When playing farce, make as much noise as possible."

The train arrived at Kuala Lumpur 10 minutes early, an event apparently previously unrecorded in the history of the line. The assistance of porters was enlisted, most of them half the size of the suitcases. The luggage, once more, was heaped on to trolleys. Simon refused to give up the bedpans.

"We are being met", John Davies, who was supervising the building of the set at the hotel, had once had to do. He had been waiting at the front of the station, with the limousines.

The taxi drivers had to be paid off. "Ten dollars each taxi", repeated the ringleader of the little coup that had captured the actors. Dominic gave them three dollars each.

Reluctantly, most opened their packed boots and luggage was clumsily removed. Three cars stuffed with luggage, drove to the hotel as the mini-



Unholy arm lock: Simon Williams with Paula Wilcox

a dozen or so taxi drivers crowded around offering their small yellow cabs with open boots.

The porters hung about, waiting to be paid. Only your correspondent had Malaysian money. No Dominic. The company should have been met by limousines and a minibus for the luggage.

"Regent Hotel has no minibuses", insisted the swarthy, moustachioed leader of the taxi drivers. It was assumed that Dominic's plane, had been delayed, although it should have arrived hours ago.

"How much to the hotel?" "Ten dollars each taxi." The taxis had diminutive boots and thus more and more cars were needed to accommodate the luggage. Actors and actresses tried to cram particular cases

bus had not materialized. At the Regent, Dominic handed the first driver \$20. "That is for all of you."

"Yes, now give the other two \$20." The company manager looked as if he would burst into tears.

The actors checked in. Bob felt miserable and insecure as there was no reservation for him. The hotel's publicity manager, greeted the company. "You're late for your press conference."

A press conference had not previously been mentioned to the worn-out actors. "Are you Mr Williams or Mr Worth?" a journalist asked the lowering, youthful Simon. Harry was unpopular for insisting on going to his room first and having a shower. He was interviewed for a woman's monthly.

"Mr Worth, have you ever wanted to try tragedy?" "Can't say I have but there are some moving bits in *Harvey*, that play about the man with the rabbit." (Afterwards, he said: "She'll probably print that I'm desperate to play King Lear.")

The journalist ploughed courteously on. "For your jokes, Mr Worth, do you observe people?"

He mentioned that - "oh, a few years ago" - he had worked with Laurel and Hardy. The journalist thought she had heard of them. Another reporter asked him where he had met his wife. "In pantomime," said Harry.

"What is pantomime?" Gently, Harry explained. "Like a fairy story, Mr Worth." "Well, sort of", said Harry, adding that his wife-to-be had been principal boy. The reporter was triumphant. "Then you, Mr Worth, were principal girl?"

Bob told me how once he had been travelling in a train with a man who wouldn't stop chatting to him. Inevitably, he asked: "What do you do for a living?" Bob could not face having to answer all the usual questions, especially, "How do you remember your lines?"

"I'm a plumber", confided Bob. "So am I!" replied the delighted man.

That night, in the hotel's superb Suasa restaurant, some of the actors had the only relaxed and leisurely meal they would have that week as there was not a performance. There was great pleasure all round when the head waiter recommended the chocolate marquis. "Derek Nimmo himself has it."

They played to appreciative audiences of locals and culture-starved expatriates, the locals understanding fewer of the jokes but drinking less at dinner and prepared to watch English actors being hit over the head with bedpans.

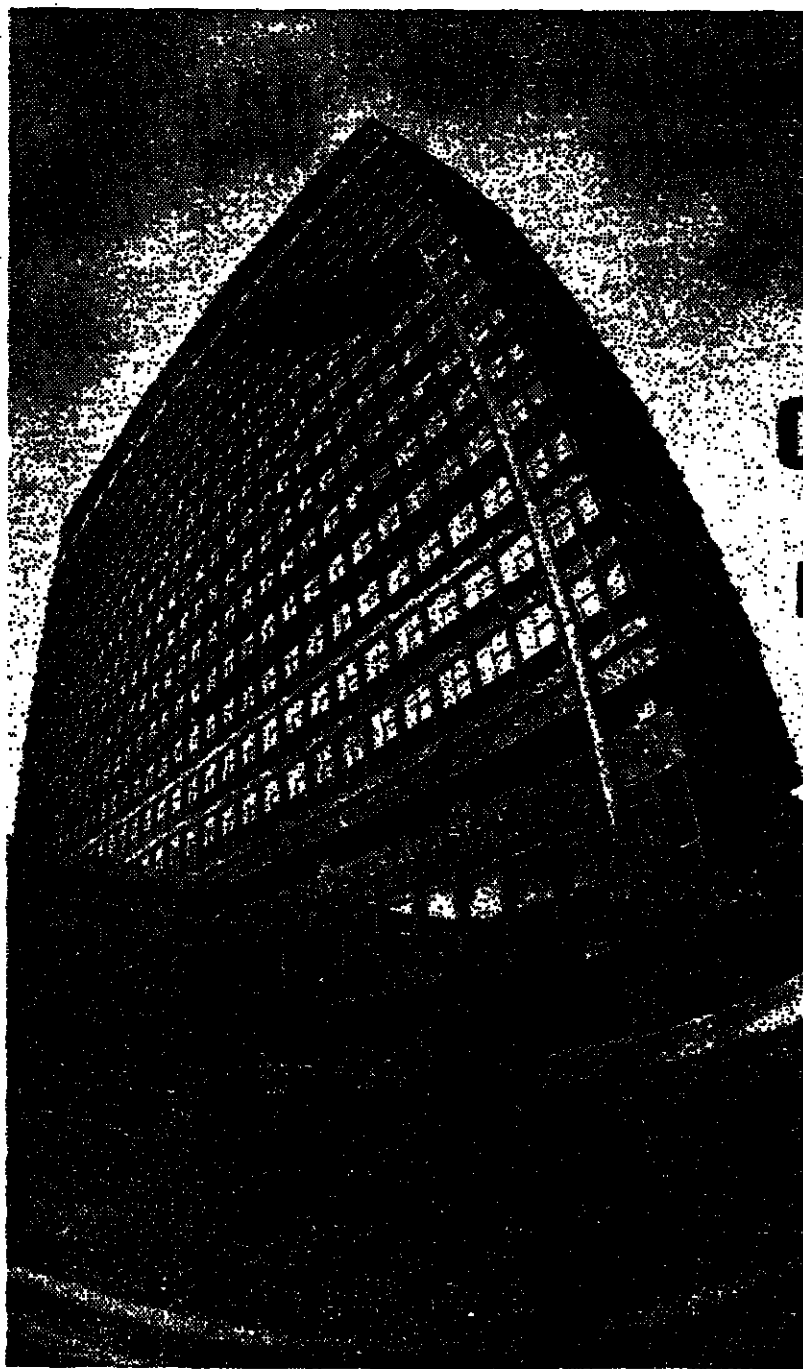
into particular boots, the whole business proving complicated, even farcical, in the tropical temperature.

"There's no hurry, no rush", insisted the equable Harry.

Eventually the boots were slammed shut, and they all began to organize themselves into the cars. Whereupon the bewildered figure of Dominic appeared. He had arrived at the station at 2.30pm when the train was due, expecting to wait for up to six hours as Stan Davies, who was supervising the building of the set at the hotel, had once had to do. He had been waiting at the front of the station, with the limousines.

The taxi drivers had to be paid off. "Ten dollars each taxi", repeated the ringleader of the little coup that had captured the actors. Dominic gave them three dollars each.

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Right of reply for the homegrown card

moreover . . . Miles Kington

The other day I was heaping praise on the standard of Greek postcards, and wondering why British didn't produce anything as good. The result was as I had half-hoped: readers wrote reproachfully to me from all over Britain, enclosing exceedingly good postcards, and I am now stocked up for the foreseeable future. But having studied this generous selection closely, I am now in a position to make a few interesting points.

The first is that, just as the best Greek ones all came from the islands, the best British ones seem to come from far outside London, especially Scotland and Ireland. There is a quite good series of London cards produced by a firm called Real London, in High Street, Kensington, but most London cards are still simultaneously glossy and tatty, and there is a terrible dearth of local London scenes. If you were a tourist staying in Notting Hill and you wanted to show the folks back home in Munich or Milan what the nice bits of Notting Hill looked like, you'd have to draw them yourself.

It was not always so. About eight years ago my local newsagent suddenly sprouted an unexpected range of postcards of the Barnes area, with heroic titles like "Barnes Common at Midday", "The Pond, Barnes" and "People Shopping in Barnes". As I live nowhere near Barnes, I asked the newsagent why he had decided to specialize in views of that area. "Not my choice, mate", he said. "Our Barnes branch has gone bust, and we've been told to flog off their stock."

Secondly, the best results seem to come about when one photographer decides to, or is asked to, chance his arm. Chris Andrews of Oxford has sent me a huge packet of the postcards he publishes himself of that fair city, and very fine they are, full of golden hazy sunshine, honeyed walls and creeping shadows. What is mostly missing is people, as if Mr Andrews gets up very early or stays up very late, before and after everyone else is around. The Cheltenham Museum people have commissioned a nice quirky range of cards from Mike Colecott and Trevor Jones, full of forgotten corners of Cheltenham or odd notices of East Anglia also received several votes from readers (I liked their postcard of a stack of empty punts) but the man who came out best on sheer volume of support was Colin Baxter of Edinburgh, who publishes his own range called "Just Edinburgh", although he also gets out into the hills. My favourite among the Baxters I've seen is "New Town Doorway", a close-up of stone, railings and doorway. What makes the photo for me is the flower tub containing some very healthy wallflowers and one very dead daffodil like passenger falling overboard. A lesser photographer would have trimmed that out before taking the picture.

Another good Scottish series (thank you, Donia Maclean) is called *Gaidhealtachd*, which I expect means something interesting, published by Skyteal Prints. They seem to specialize in views of the Scottish landscape which show that it

isn't just a romantic place full of ruined castles: it is also a bleak and rough place full of ruined crofts. Most postcards, of course, aren't too bleak on the reasonable grounds that nobody would buy them.

What seems to work best is a judicious mixture of rough edges and smooth art. One of the Images of East Anglia cards, for instance, sent to me by Peter Sealy, is captioned "Church Window, Essex". It is a close-up of the window-ledge, with three fire pots on it, next to the roughness of the wall.

Rosemary Bashford reports some superb postcards on sale in Normandy and Brittany, while Peter Stokoe says defiantly that the whole move towards good postcards started years ago, a superb series called Real Ireland, full of pubs, shops, pubs, fields, pubs, priests and pubs. And bicycles. This is the other strange point to emerge - every series of postcards now contains more than its fair share of bicycles. I am as pro-bike as the next man, but could we soon have a cease-fire on pretty pictures of bicycles?

CONCISE CROSSWORD (No 495)

- ACROSS
- 1 Egyptian beetle (6)
 - 4 Marriage partner (6)
 - 7 Legend (4)
 - 8 Headbands (5)
 - 9 Prize (8)
 - 13 Semisolid food (3)
 - 16 Glamour event (6,7)
 - 17 Golf ball support (3)
 - 19 Family servant (8)
 - 24 Ghastly (8)
 - 25 Protest rally (4)
 - 26 Goad (6)
 - 27 Foot softly (6)

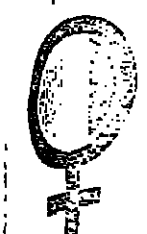
- DOWN
- 1 About (4)
 - 2 Interchange (9)
 - 3 Jubans (5)
 - 4 Spanish male (5)
 - 5 Allomere's contest (4)
 - 6 Steam bath (5)
 - 10 Behind (5)
 - 11 Not abridged (5)
 - 12 Boredom (5)
 - 13 Criterion (9)
 - 14 Meal spread (4)
 - 15 Adjoin (4)
 - 18 Ghastly (5)
 - 20 Overcast (5)
 - 21 Turn aside (3)
 - 22 Feet (4)
 - 23 Stockings (4)

SOLUTION TO No 494

ACROSS: 1 Tarmac 5 Pose 8 Usher 9 Normans 11 Re-record 13 Finn 15 Conservatoire 17 Land 18 Unsettled 21 Martin 22 Bragg 23 Sid 24 Niggle

DOWN: 2 Abhor 3 Mar 4 Contravention 5 Pore 6 Swahili 7 Curriculum 10 Stonebenge 12 Chew 14 Syle 16 Neutral 19 Trail 20 Bird 22 Bug

EUROPEAN WOMEN Part 2



See how they ran: From top, Harry Worth, Simon Williams, John Barron, Michael Knowles and Ian Oliver

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Latin Lib but little freedom

EUROPEAN
WOMEN
Part 2



Caroline Moorehead continues the series on the equality of women in Europe, with a look at the revolution in Italy that should have liberated women, but ironically has not

Not long ago a trial of Mafia suspects opened in Palermo in Sicily. Among those accused were a small number of women. No sooner had the court assembled than the judge dismissed the case against them on the ground that, by definition, no woman could be a Mafia boss.

There was, doubtless, relief among those standing in the dock. But in the rest of Italy, there was indignation. Wasn't this, exclaimed women up and down the country, a case of blatant sexual discrimination?

Stories like this, redolent of comic opera, suggest that as far as the position of women is concerned, Italy is still living in an earlier age. Even if the election results last summer showed that the impressive parliamentary gains made by women in the 1970s were continuing to hold, the divide between paper and reality — between the law and how people use it — is immense, and possibly growing wider.

In the Senate, 15 out of the 315 Senators today are women, two more than at the 1979 elections. But in the Chamber of Deputies, the number has gone down from 52 out of 630 to 48. In a country dominated by a church pushing hard for a return to traditional family life, the results were not discouraging. But individual parties, like the Communists, with 134 women candidates, and the Radicals, who had both been promoting women's issues, expressed considerable disappointment that they had not made substantial gains. Compared with other European parliaments, however, the figures are not to be ridiculed: at the British 1983 election 23 women, the same number as before, out of 650, were returned to the House of Commons.

The 1970s were a golden age for Italian women, at least as far as the law was concerned. Fifty years of discriminatory legislation (Italian women did not get the vote until 1946, could not join the police force until 1959 or the foreign service until 1961, and until 1969 an adulterous woman risked a year in prison, but a man nothing at all) was replaced at some speed by a series of very liberal measures.

Some, like the right to divorce (1970) and abortion — passed in 1975 after it was revealed that a million illegal abortions were being carried out each year — were achieved only after intensive and passionate lobbying. Others, like the reforms of the family (1976) made their way through with scarcely a fight.

Today, as of right, an Italian woman whose marriage ends in divorce can claim half her husband's money, including half his factory if he happens to own one; she is eligible for any job (there is no sex discrimination except night shifts and work deemed dangerous); and she can take five months' maternity leave, on full pay, to be followed, if she wishes, by a full year of part-time work.

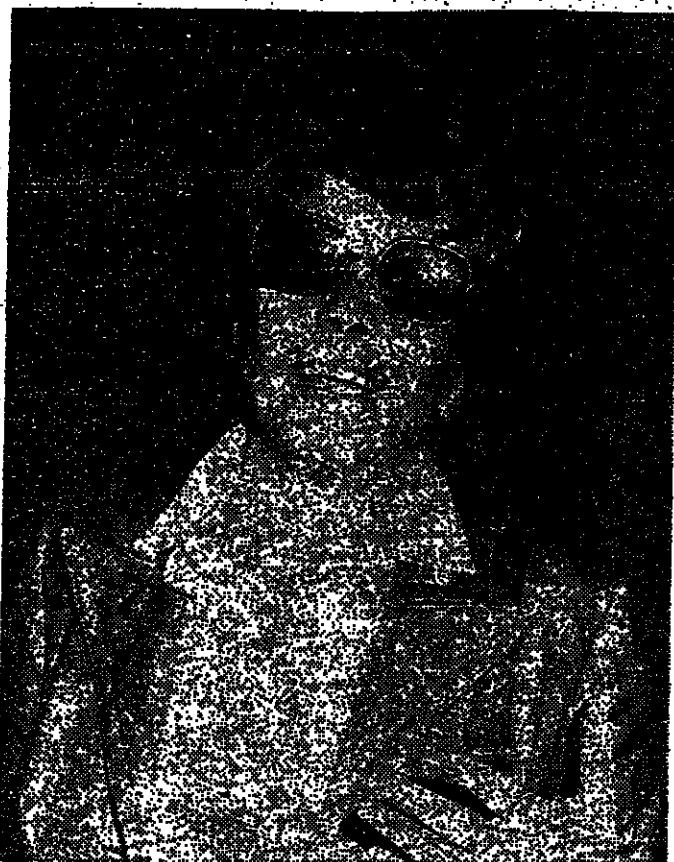
Where a child is ill, a woman can take time off until its third birthday and still retain her job. Although she is unpaid, both the State and her union make up some measure of her salary. "We are among the most progressive European countries as regards the law for women," says Anna Rondini, a teacher with three young children. "The years 1970 to 1977 were wonderful."

Campaigning for these acts of Parliament was an active women's movement. Like its European counterparts, it took its cue from America, but it developed its own, particularly Italian, flavour. The left of centre Republican party claims the credit for launching the movement in Italy when it organized a series of eight weekly seminars on the liberation of women in 1970, attended by teachers, sociologists, politicians and trade unionists. They drew up a draft for a women's manifesto and circulated it to some 200,000 women.

Individual women's groups, seemingly more politicized and more fragmented in Italy than elsewhere, sprang up around the country, both to do battle on behalf of whatever bit of legislation was waiting in the wings, and to keep pressing for new campaigns.

"Generals without armies," these groups were sometimes called by the press. There was the Roman Movimento di Liberazione della Donna, federated to the Radical party, the Marxist Fronte Italiano di Liberazione femminile and the Lotta Femminista, born in Padova in 1974 as a campaign to win wages for housewives. Since the end of the 1970s, the political spirit of these groups has diminished, though a number of young women did move over into the masculine world of the terrorist groups; there they have achieved notoriety as killers in their own right.

Now that the main legal battles are done, some of the others have turned to founding consciousness-raising groups, for, as the spokeswoman for the Unione delle Donne Italiane put it, "every specific point of oppression, whether in the theatre, in factories or in



CARLA RAVAGLIOLI is a well-known author of a number of books on women and has been a Communist Senator for many years.

"We are absolutely determined to oppose the Christian Democrats' policy of pushing women back into the home by saying that all the permissiveness of the Seventies and the drug-taking is due to the fact that women went out to work. We, the Communist Party, have two measures we intend to get through. We want to set up a permanent organization in both houses to examine every law from the woman's point of view, and we want a women's commission to form links with other European countries."

education. These women gather in meetings, but few of the groups now have offices or regular addresses.

More interestingly perhaps, a considerable number of women have adopted more pragmatic goals. Anna Rondini says: "There came a moment when a lot of us — the class of '68, as we call ourselves — said: 'Enough of this solidarity between women. The time has come to move on. We must become professional.'"

In Rome, a thousand women teachers, doctors, journalists and lawyers have founded Progetto Donna, an organization designed to encourage women to go for more demanding jobs in universities and in

Goading, charming and aggressive

Orianna Fallaci is Italy's premier interviewer. Her style — goading, charming, aggressive and charming — won her a cult following after she got Henry Kissinger to describe himself as a lone cowboy, made President Nguyen van Thieu of South Vietnam cry, and teased the Shah of Persia into saying: "Women are important in a man's life only if they're beautiful and charming and keep their femininity."



EMMA BONINO, who was a teacher of French when she entered Parliament in 1976 at the age of 36, rose to lead the Radicals in the Chamber of Deputies and is now a European MP.

Each party, except ours and the Liberals, nominates a woman to lead a woman's section. The moment for that should have passed. We should now be debating the big issues of life — nuclear politics, the economy — and no longer be sidetracked down minor paths. Birth control is a question of culture and tradition. Contraception is now theoretically legal, but relatively few women use it. Why? Because there is no structure and no process of education to make it work."

deputies, 38 are members of the Communist Party. Many continue to champion women's issues.

Other women politicians take a scornful view of all moves to isolate women's issues from the mainstream of politics.

But if the laws are all there, why do so few Italian women play a significant part in the life of the country?

"It's perfectly simple," says Anna Rondini. "The laws are indeed there, but just as they came on the books, the state of the economy changed. In a climate of recession, who is going to implement them? Young women today are too worried about getting a job at all to insist on their full rights."

In theory, the law is indeed in tune with an Italy in which marriages are decreasing at the rate of some 7,000 a year and in which the number of families with three children has halved in the last 15 years. It is the practice that looks increasingly dim. Changes in education and attitudes have affected Italy no less than northern Europe. But whereas in other countries the response has been to provide day-care facilities, medical centres and programmes of education — that is to say, implement the laws — no such response has been forthcoming in Italy.

Not surprisingly perhaps, given that the campaigns to improve the condition of life for women in Italy have been fought mainly in Parliament, the last decade has seen the arrival there of an impressive number of highly educated and not easily intimidated women, mainly of the Left (of the '48

ALAN FRANKS' DIARY



Famine, the food for do-gooders

I had been intending to record something funny about philanthropy in suburbia this week, but somehow the jokes seem to stick in my biro. There are few situations which are too far gone for humour, but I fear Ethiopia is one of them. It is true that Bob Marshall, the community conscience, is bang in the middle of her element: the welfare of other people's children has always been her pet concern, and here is a great grim grin of them, piped nightly into our lounges of plenty. Schemes, functions, evenings, raffish walks, sales — all the good notions of the Caring Lady — are fairly spinning off her like matter from a centrifuge. The yellow beacon of her bedroom light shines long into the indifferent night, and it is surely only a matter of time before she or the new Xerox gives out.

It is also true that my horrible lawyer friend Parvis Maitland has found himself a central role in this upsurge of compassion.

Last night he was presiding over an Auction for Ethiopia in the local church. As we have seen before — particularly on PTA occasions — he has an infallible nose for the true location of power. There he stood with his great secular hulk framed against the reredos, intoning the lots and the rising bids as though he were leading a prayer and response. It is frightful — yes, and perhaps just laughable — how the act of sudden charity can put a glow of piety on to the most unlikely features. I swear that as the money rolled in and it really did roll — for all manner of clutter and cast-offs which normally go for a song in the Nearby New shop, Parvis believed it was his auctioneering skills, rather than the spectre of babies born straight into death, that was causing the inflation.

Tonight he stars again. Same time, same place. Poetry For Ethiopia say the handbills in the off-licence window (Maitland is so easily their best customer that they have just about papered the entire shop front over with leaflets, obscuring the new lure of Christmas stock. Sharing the stage, or rather altar, with him, is the unlikely figure of Bob Marshall. For three quid we get a glass of mulled wine and some bits of Kipling and Hopkins. It is also rumoured that Maitland will be doing readings from Donne; the sermons, for heaven's sake, not the progane stuff. I do believe he is on the verge of acquiring religion. This is hardly a Burton and Taylor double act, more a sort of travesty of Robert Morley and Joyce Grenfell. There is something horribly mock-heroic about the notion of two such non-performers commanding

full houses at the click of a finger. But why should I be so cynical about do-gooders? (A lead term, I know, but Bob Marshall definitely is one). As my Oxfam friend so rightly says, the alternative to doing something is doing nothing, and the merits of the second course are indeed hard to advance. For him my admiration is boundless. He is the real thing; he actually goes to these Manforsaken places like Tigre and the Sahel, and has been predicting this very disaster (I don't mean the poetry reading) for years. Only now that it has acquired First Division status through the camera, does anyone stop listening to him. Maitland, of course, does more than listen. He has actually stolen, yes, but in some of the arguments in Oxfam's Hungry for Change literature, and has been spouting them to alarmed listeners in the Waterman's Arms. Good for ticket sales, I suppose.

And all the while, the two-month season of Christmas is poised, like a great landslide above a village. What I fear, and what my Oxfam friend knows from bitter experience, is that when it makes its engulfing descent and when local in the desert finally loses its peak-hot appeal, then the emotional shelf-life (what a horribly apt American phrase) of Ethiopia will be over and the world will return to normal.

The new family of declassé, aristos who recently moved into Orchard Road is unimpressed by this wave of charity. The other day in the Waterman's Arms the father got into a colossal row with the Stupid Radical, saying that he should look after Number One (meaning England) before we meddle in the affairs of other nations. He was joined by a pair of early Santas who had just finished their shifts at the local department store and who, after several schooners of Bristol Cream, were advancing the case for the abolition of children. If all got rather ugly, with the Radical accusing them of quickening the trade in toy weapons, thus abetting the arms race in the long term and ensuring the further dispossession of the poor. He then rounded on the aristos (a father of seven), and told him he was being most un-Christian. "So what?" came the reply. "Well, you're a Catholic, aren't you?" said the Radical. "In practice, yes," said the other. "But in theory, no." Massive guffaws from the Santas, by now as red as Rudolph's nose.

Real Life With Small Children Underfoot, a collection of Alan Franks' columns, is published by J. M. Dent (£5.95).

Ginger up your store cupboard with chutney

The squirrels of my acquaintance have an insatiable appetite for acorns and spend hours tucking them into hidey holes and digging them up again. They skip and bustle about, storing autumn's nuts against winter's hunger, then forget where they have buried them.

Putting something by is an instinct that we have not lost either. It may be that the urge to squirrel away some portion of summer's fruit satisfies needs which are now emotional as much as practical. Preparing a freezer full of neatly labelled fruit and vegetables, good and useful though they will be, cannot compete with the gratification of making traditional preserves — pungent chutneys, jars of jewel-like jelly, ketchups and ratatias.

Fresh green ginger is an

excellent ingredient in chutneys of all kinds. It is not a commodity to which most of our grandmothers had access, so feel free to adapt favourite old recipes. Pumpkin is another good thing to put in chutney. It does not have much taste of its own, of course, but it mops up all the other flavours. Surprisingly perhaps, it does not disintegrate into a mush in chutney. Because the sugar is added at the beginning of cooking the chunks of raw pumpkin absorb it right from the start and this helps to keep the pieces whole.

Pumpkin and green ginger chutney
Makes about 1.5 kilos (3 1/2 lb)
800g (2lb) pumpkin, seeded and cut in large dice
450g (1lb) onions, roughly chopped



Shona Crawford Poole

225g (8oz) cooking apple, peeled and sliced
110g (4oz) sukutadas
6 cloves garlic, peeled and thickly sliced
55g (2oz) fresh green ginger, peeled and thinly sliced

680g (1 1/2 lb) golden, granulated sugar, or demerara
750ml (1 1/4 pints) dark malt vinegar
2 tablespoons salt
1 tablespoon cayenne pepper

Make sure that the jars, whether new or recycled, are very thoroughly washed and dried. Before filling, heat them in a very cool oven (180°C/325°F, gas mark 3) for 15 minutes.

Put all the chutney ingredients into a large brass, stainless steel or enameled pan — preferably a wide preserving pan — and mix them well.

Bring the mixture slowly to the boil then cook it steadily, but quite gently, for about 45 minutes, or until it has reached the consistency you like for chutney.

As the mixture thickens and cools down, stir it often to stop it catching.

Pour the chutney into the prepared jars. Top with a disc of waxed paper and seal the jars with corrosion-resistant covers.

Home-made honey nougat, densely packed with fresh toasted nuts, is a two-man, woman or child job unless you have an electric whisk to cope with the beating stage.

As well as elbow grease, you will need a couple of sheets of rice paper, a board to weigh down the nougat as it sets, and some weights. Edible rice paper can be found in stationers, supermarkets and specialist cooks' shops.

Honey hazelnut nougat
Makes about 570g (1 1/4 lb)
225g (8oz) shelled hazelnuts
175ml (6 fl oz) honey
225g (8oz) granulated sugar
6 tablespoons water
1 egg white, stiffly beaten

To bring out the flavour of the hazelnuts and to skin them easily, spread them on a baking sheet and roast them in a preheated moderate oven (160°C/325°F, gas mark 3) for

about 15 minutes or until the centres are a pale biscuit colour. Cool the nuts a little then tip them on to a clean, dry cloth and rub off the skins. Halve or coarsely chop the nuts and keep them warm until needed.

Measure the honey into a jug and set it in a bowl of hot water to warm.

Put the sugar and water in a saucepan and cook it on a low heat until the sugar has dissolved completely. Then without stirring it, cook the syrup to the soft crack stage (135°C/280°F): a sample of the syrup dropped into ice-cold water can be pulled into a firm but still malleable strands.

Add the honey, stir it in, then continue cooking until the temperature rises to soft crack again. Immediately remove the pan from the heat.

Now pour the syrup slowly into the stiffly beaten egg white, foaming constantly until the foam begins to thicken, then becomes stiff. To make it stiffen well it may be necessary to stand the bowl over a pan of boiling water and whisk it over this additional heat.

Fold in the warm nuts and spoon the nougat on to a baking sheet lined with rice paper. Spread it to a depth of about 1.25cm (1/2 inch) and top it with another sheet of rice paper. Weight it well with books, tins or bricks and leave it overnight to set.

Next day, use a large, heavy knife to cut the nougat into bars or squares. Nougat keeps well for several weeks if it is stored in an airtight container.

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THE TIMES DIARY

Name of the game

The Southgate-by-election caused by Sir Anthony Berry's death in the Brighton bombing looks set to be "business as usual" - despite early protestations to the contrary. Following reports yesterday that the Government may call the election as early as December 13, I learn that the probable date of Sir Anthony's memorial service is December 11 - meaning that tributes to the late Tory member would be carried in eye-of-poll papers. Local Tories certainly have no compunction in using Sir Anthony's name to boost their cause. They have just issued a leaflet with Mrs Thatcher's tribute to him on the front, and on the back his "last message" to the constituency supporting GLC abolition. A Southgate Labour Party leaflet is equally tasteless: a front-page article condemns NHS cuts with a cartoon of a bloodied, bandaged one-legged man being rejected by a hospital that only takes "emergencies". Local Liberals and Labour are at least leaving a decent interval before selecting candidates: by contrast, the Conservatives already have a shortlist, having bypassed the normal procedure whereby Central Office circulates approved list candidates and invites them to apply. At least they had the decency to reject the hopeful who submitted an application within five days of Sir Anthony's death.

Long shot

Cornish businessman Colin Prior was hopping mad when he read an interview which he purportedly gave to a West Country newspaper, *The Sunday Independent*. So mad, in fact, that he has sent a complaint to the Press Council claiming the piece is pure fabrication. *The Sunday Independent* emphatically denies the allegation, but it is certainly the case that Prior does not readily give interviews. Devon and Cornwall police have been waiting to ask him questions about a £3m fraud since September. They can't - because he has an associate, Cornish solicitor James Double, who is both living in Ibiza, a Spanish territory which has no extradition treaty with Britain.

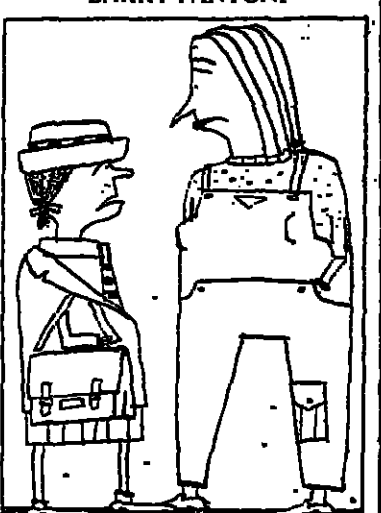
Clive alive

Television producers are queuing up to turn Clive Ponting, the civil servant alleged to have leaked Belgrano documents, into a star. Ponting's solicitor, Brian Raymond, says he has been approached "by every current affairs programme you have ever heard of and some you haven't" to sign up Ponting for a post-trial exclusive. Ponting, who will not be accepting a fee, has yet to decide which, if any, offer to accept. The waiting is particularly harrowing for *Panorama*, desperate for the story after having been scooped by *World in Action* for Sarah Tisdall's tale of woe.

Guam with you

Tory MP Piers Merchant, one of 12 MPs who showed the Miss World contestants around the Commons on Monday, was slipped a message on the back of a menu during lunch by Miss Guam. "It's truly been a delight," it said. "This day will for ever be remembered. May happiness and success be yours for ever."

BARRY FANTONI



"Today we had maths, English and sexual discrimination"

Travel papers

When the Civil Aviation Authority considers Randolph Fields' licence application for a proposed Highland Express airline, it will find his recent record in other areas makes interesting reading. Co-founder of Virgin Airways with Richard Branson, Fields is a lawyer and head of chambers in Grays Inn. On October 5 two fellow barristers, two pupils and two clerks - the bulk of the chambers - left because they did not like the way he mixed high-flying commercial business with legal practice. Last Friday Fields took the extraordinary step of obtaining an *ex parte* order authorizing the seizure - over the weekend - of client papers that the barristers took with them, claiming that they were part of research he and his company were doing for American clients. Fields was not satisfied with what was recovered on Monday he sought - unsuccessfully - to have the order extended to cover a fourth set of premises. Yesterday in the Court of Appeal, counsel for the barristers accused Fields of failing to disclose material information in obtaining the seizure order, and of now having access to papers he has no right to. The case was adjourned until today.

PHS

Wrecking? It's really a rescue

Kenneth Baker, Local Government Minister, says the Conservatives will not be deflected in their fight against high-spending councils

have seen their bills go up by almost 400 per cent in Sheffield, where the rates bill includes the precept levied by high-spending South Yorkshire. Domestic rates have gone up by 245 per cent. Over the same period, the retail price index has gone up by 80 per cent.

No government can be indifferent to the spending of local authorities. But the UK as a whole, the central exchequer provides them with about £14.5bn in grants, which have to be allocated as fairly as possible. They spend almost £33bn a year - one quarter of all public expenditure. Local authorities who take more than their share are in effect hijacking funds from other worthwhile programmes and projects. No government can tolerate such piracy.

During the 1960s and '70s there was not too much trouble between local and central government because public expenditure generally rose steadily during this period. Local authority expenditure rose on average by 3 per cent in real terms. Since 1979 the main thrust of our economic policy has been to restrain public expenditure. Local authorities have found it more difficult to meet the Government's targets despite the efforts of many individuals and councils to make economies. A small minority have disregarded the Government's requests for savings and have gone on increasing their spending as if they were totally insulated from the present economic pressures.

This year, local authorities in England are budgeting to exceed government targets by a total of £848m, and three-quarters of that overspend - £632m - is down to the 18 councils which are to have their rates limited next year. These 18 represent only a small proportion of England's 413 local authorities.

Some of the rate-capped councils have hit their ratepayers very hard. Domestic ratepayers in Hackney, who have been subject to the excessive spending of the GLC and ILEA, as well as of Hackney itself,

Predictably, the announcement last July of the 18 authorities selected for rate limitation produced howls of outrage. It was the signal for the municipal propaganda machine to move into top gear. Since then we have been assailed with emotional claims that rate limitation will mean the devastation and destruction of services in the councils concerned; that rents will go up, home helps will be cut, adult education classes closed, and nursery school places withdrawn.

But these claims are blatant scaremongering. The strident noises of protest are concerned more with the preservation of power and the unfeeling right to spend other people's money than with the traditional concept of service to the community on which our system of local government is based.

It is also important to realize that we are protecting not just the householders: rate limitation helps to keep industry and jobs in areas where councils are driving them away with rate increases of crippling proportions. It is therefore very

much in the interests of the community as a whole.

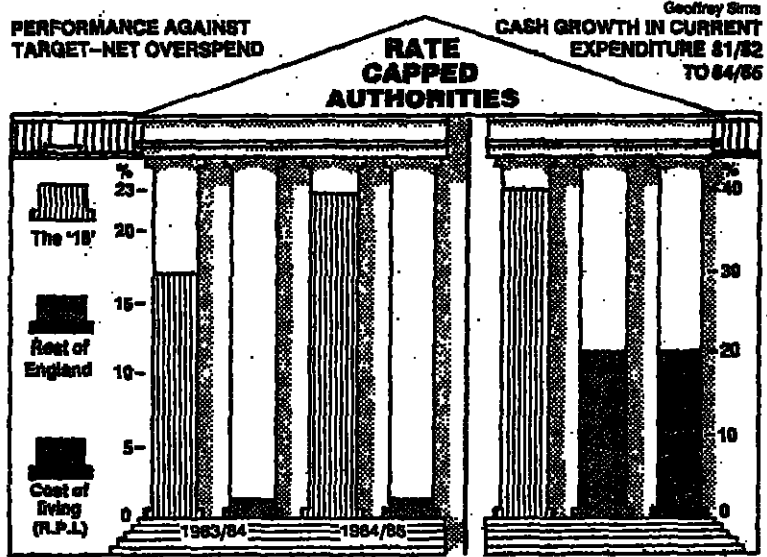
Is it unreasonable to ask 15 of the 18 to keep their spending in 1985/86 to the same level in cash terms as this year - in other words to absorb the cost of inflation? The other three whose spending has grown fastest - the GLC, the ILEA and the London Borough of Greenwich - have been asked to make a cash-terms cut of 1½ per cent. I have no doubt that many companies which have taken a battering during the recession would have been very relieved if their cost-cutting could have been of such modest proportions.

Some of the councils are arguing that the levels we have set do not take into account some special year-on-year funding arrangements, the use of special funds and the like. If so, why don't they come and tell us - which the law specifically allows them to do. But none has done so.

At present there is some brave talk about councillors embarking on various forms of illegal action - euphemistically termed "non-compliance" by its advocates. But if councillors are serious about leading their authorities over the brink into illegality, the first to suffer would be their employees who would not be paid, together with local people who depend on the council's services. As for the councillors themselves, such action could lead them personally to audit surcharge and possibly disqualification from office. If that happened they would have no one to blame but themselves.

Let no one make any mistake. We mean business in our determination to protect the ratepayers of these high-spending councils. Domestic ratepayers who have suffered crippling increases in their rate bills and commercial ratepayers who provide jobs which keep the local economy going. We are talking not about the destruction of local services but about the preservation of communities and the provision of reasonable services more cheaply and efficiently. Councillors who are genuinely dedicated to serving their communities should be more concerned with these objectives than with political brinkmanship.

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Andrew Lycett on the plight of Ethiopia's Jewish Falasha community

Poorest of the poor - or aliens in the promised land



Typically Africa - until you spot the Star of David

loath to admit that any of its peoples wanted to emigrate. Falasha resentment at such restrictions was encouraged by foreign support groups, which tended to paint the Falashas as victims of Soviet-style pogroms.

Falashas have continued to press to leave Ethiopia, and when visas have not been granted have taken the difficult way out through Sudan. Today about a third of around 30,000 Falashas are reported to be still in Ethiopia, a third on the road to Israel (which usually means in Sudan), and a third in Israel itself.

It is difficult to say which of these groups has had the worst experience. Falashas in Ethiopia continue to live in some of the poorest villages in the country. Although their conditions may be better today than under the emperor, they are aware of an antipathy towards minority

cultures and a continuing block on their emigration. Those who have made the difficult decision to try to reach Israel are often robbed in flight, beaten up and ridden with disease before arriving at an uncertain future in refugee camps in Sudan. And those who actually make it to Israel regularly find themselves victims of intolerance.

The plight of these unfortunate people has captured the imagination of lobby groups such as the American Association for Ethiopian Jewry, which have chastised the Ethiopian, Israeli and western governments for lack of action on the Falashas' behalf.

One of the last legislative acts of the recently dissolved US Congress was to vote \$2.5m for the settlement of Ethiopian Jews in Israel. No United States minister has been able to visit Addis Ababa to plead for the

Falashas. So that role may have been left to Rifkind.

Perhaps the best documented accounts of Falashas today refer to their condition in Israel. The Israeli authorities do not seem to arrive at Falasha centres to absorb them. Centres where each family is visited regularly for six months by social workers. They are taught the rudimentary skills of modern living, such as how to use a bank. They are also given 45,000 shekels for "appliances and furniture" - a sum recently described in the *Jerusalem Post* as "about enough for a refrigerator door".

But even at this stage cultural differences are not easy to overcome. One social worker recalls visiting a family to help sack laundry. She was startled to find the woman of the house in the linen cupboard. She later found out that, even today in Falasha villages, women who have menstruated are considered unclean for seven days and often have to live in a separate hut away from the main home. This unfortunate immigrant could find no such hut, and had to make do with the only realistic alternative. These cultural differences, when amplified in the workplace, have often led to anti-Falasha prejudice among non-settled Israelis.

Frances Stradler, a psychologist who has worked in the absorption centres, says that the immigrants lose confidence in themselves. "They feel that their culture is backward. At the same time they are so keen to do what is right in their new country that they lose confidence even in their ability to bring up their own children."

For many Falashas this cultural tightrope has been too difficult to negotiate and there have been a number of suicides - something unknown when they lived in Ethiopia.

These problems have led to new thinking on the Falashas' future. Dr Richard Pankhurst, Britain's leading Ethiopian scholar, does not believe there is discrimination against the Falashas in Ethiopia and says: "You don't have to take the Falashas to Israel to maintain their identity. Religion is only one strand of their identity and culture, which in many ways was better preserved if they remained in Ethiopia."

But the principle of free emigration, if desired, remains an essential human right - which explains why Mr Rifkind should continue to raise it.

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Mao killed millions: Deng just detains

One hundred and ninety five Chinese constitute the country's most unfortunate minority. They are all that remain of the 20 million designated "landlords, rich peasants, counter-revolutionaries, rightists, or bad elements during the Maoist purges of the 1950s. For those who escaped execution, designation meant humiliation, or hard labour. Until the designations were removed, sometimes not for 30 years, they blighted the social, political, and work lives of their bearers and families.

This week the Ministry of Public Security announced that a final 78,327 of the original 20 million - the first time China has released such a figure - have had their labels removed. They are now *ex-pariah*. Only 195 are still detained, the ministry announced, or undergoing *laogai*, education by labour.

The authorities make no apology to the 78,327, or even to the 982 who they concede had been "wrongly designated" for the last 30 years. Deng Xiaoping, party general secretary during most of that period, still insists that the 1957 anti-rightist drive, the biggest purge of all, was necessary, if over-zealous.

accurate. In 1958 Mao put the figure at "more or less 30 million", or 5 per cent of the population. Up to 1954 alone, Mao was to write, 800,000 had been executed. In 1957, Premier Chou En-lai would produce 16.8 per cent of the counter-revolutionaries had been sentenced to death.

In 1954 10 million "unrehabilitated class enemies" were deprived of their civil rights.

Probably the most famous "rightist" was China's best-known woman novelist, Ding Ling. Released in 1979 after more than 20 years of torture, banishment, and isolation, she observed: "In the 1930s the Kuomintang (Chiang Kaishek's regime) banned my books. After 1958 we ourselves banned them." She remembered other victims. "Did they all really deserve to be treated like dung?"

Even during the purges, some went straight to the top to complain. In 1957 one brave professor wrote to Mao: "During the campaign for the suppression of counter-revolutionaries in 1955, an untold number of citizens throughout China were detained... A great many died because they could not endure the struggle... We have applied to intellectuals methods of punishment which peasants would not apply to

landlords or workers to capitalists... Intellectuals who chose to die... were innumerable."

Innocent of lawyers and impartial judges, the tribunals which provoked these suicides were ad hoc and animated by hatred and revenge. Indeed, from 1949 to January 1980, China had no criminal codes. Until only a few years ago those sentenced as "counter-revolutionaries" (a loosely defined category of abuse) could expect anything from three years to death. By the mid-1950s there existed "five bad categories": once placed in one of them, and given a "cap" as a "rich peasant" or whatever, one's civil rights disappeared.

Detention, forced labour, or some other form of "control" followed, together with disgrace for close relations. Such designations became matters of life and death during the great convulsions which swept China until Mao's death and the arrest of the Gang of Four in late 1976. Only in 1979 did the government begin to abolish labels altogether. Until then the grand children of pre-revolutionary rich peasants and landlords were still being stigmatized. In 1979, for example, a leading

scientist received his rehabilitation dossier. It was as thick as a London telephone book. Every charge since 1951 had been reinvestigated and judged spurious. A brilliant student from a rich Shanghai family who obtained a PhD from Yale he had been assumed to be a spy for having voluntarily returned to China to serve the new communist state. Unlabeled, he was suddenly elevated from laboratory technician to university professor and awarded 25 years of back pay. His wife was also promoted, and his daughter admitted to a select school.

China is proud of its four-year-old legal system. Apart from the still-labelled 195, the "five bad categories" are no more. But "counter-revolutionary" remains in the new constitution and is enshrined in the recent criminal codes. It is as vague a concept as ever. Counter-revolutionaries still vanish without trial. Last month Amnesty reported that the prisoners of conscience of whom it is aware are only a small fraction of the total number in the People's Republic of China.

Jonathan Mirsky

Digby Anderson

Thrashing around for invective

Dr Paul Corrigan, head of the Applied Social Studies Department at the troubled Polytechnic of North London, has resigned as from the end of December. Dr Corrigan was described by *New Society* recently as a "democratic Marxist". I hope he does not mind if I suggest his Christmas holiday reading should include the works of St Alphonsus Liguori, *Tales of the brothers Grimm* and Dante's *Divine Comedy* ("Hell" only).

Social Work Today explains that he is resigning to "underline the conditions that are necessary to successfully defend any progressive educational or welfare practice five years into Thatcherism". He complains: "We have been through something which many social services departments are familiar with, a good thrashing from the right: a continual attempt to publicly humiliate". In the current *Times Higher Education Supplement* he calls the experience a "nightmare".

Dr Corrigan, who is reported as envisaging a career in local government, is convinced that progressive social work is still possible if it "can just hang on in there". I wish him good fortune. No doubt he will know and avoid those "many social services departments" in whose employment his wounds might be reopened. My major worry is for his vocabulary. If Thatcherism is "thrashing" social workers and their teachers after only five years, how will its effects be adequately described after nine? And if, as in *Rider Haggard*, she is returned for a third term of five years, will there be a dictionary with hyperbolic sufficient to describe her viciousness?

It is a general problem for the many on the left who have made a rhetorical profession out of "defending essential services". While waiting to get their hands on the public purse strings once more, they vent their extravagance on the language. Here as in the economy, inflation devalues and corrupts. The longer the waiting, the worse the problem. Cuts in health, education and social work were described as "vicious" less than one year "into Thatcherism". The mild restraint of the police on picket duty has already exhausted the ultimate pejoratives of "Nazi", "fascist" and "storm-trooper". Where do you go, in rhetoric, from there? I only hope my reading list will help - Alphonsus is good on gore and martyrdom - but I doubt it.

The alternative solution would be for them to realize they are in for a long linguistic siege and use the ammunition sparingly, keeping their Dante dry for the final "crisis". But can addicts of 95 per cent proof hysteria-speak be maintained on verbal near-beer? Would public sympathy be engaged by a complaint that a service, essential or not, "has been spanked ever so gently with a woolly slipper"? That would be

neither the truth in most cases, including that of the Sociology and Applied Social Studies departments of PNL. All that has happened there is that degree admissions, teaching and assessment have been subjected to public scrutiny and minor changes urged. As regards the Harrington affair, staff have merely been asked to obey the law.

It could have been worse. Although criticized by HM Inspectors for a "long tail of poor achievers", none of the staff has been disciplined, demoted or sacked. Research, their other main non-teaching duty, has not even been remarked on. No one has asked why nearly half the staff continue to teach at degree level when they have failed to publish any significant amounts of research over many years of publicly-funded employment (staff disclose their research publications in submissions to the Council for National Academic Awards).

Those inspecting the records of the staff who have published will have found a significant number of Marxist and radical themes for "committed" journals and publishers: the Communist Party's *Marxism Today*; Lawrence and Wishart, which has a long record of publishing communist material; *Black Liberator*; the *Left Review*; the *Feminist Review*; committed to the development of socialist feminism; and *Critical Social Policy*. The Inspectors and the CNA do not so much as quibble about these research preferences even at a time of stretched public funds. That is liberal tolerance. Some outside academia might call it indulgence. What it is, not except in wonderland, is a "thrashing".

Most of the staff are on senior lecturer grades, being paid up to £15,000 a year by the taxpayer - some for a number of years now. They have considerable autonomy over their teaching and research. How many of them could better their pay or conditions outside the public sector? How many have tried? Even in that sector their lot is envied. Employees of "many social services departments" would queue up, backed barred for the sort of flooding enjoyed by the PNL social work teachers.

I doubt whether I will persuade Dr Corrigan or any of the left who protest about their miseries in public employment to abandon their attachment to hyperbole. A man whose recent book is titled *Taking to the streets* is not going to give up his "struggles" and "crisis" lightly. So I offer him Grimm and the other reading tips as a source of heightened language with which to describe increased sufferings to come. Failing these, there are always video-nasties.

The author is Director of the Social Affairs Unit.

Robin Cook

The true villains of the piece

Last week Mrs Thatcher closed her speech which followed the opening of Parliament with a purple passage on the paramountcy of law. Once a Bill has been passed by Parliament, she apparently regards obedience to it as a categorical imperative. The significance of the passage is that by asserting that she now has the law on her side, she has asked out her claim to the ground of high moral principle in the coming confrontation between her government and half the local authorities in the land.

At this point I had better come clean and ask for previous convictions to be taken into account. Back in 1972 I was a member of a town council which for a time defied the Housing Finance Act brought in by the Heath government. Let anyone imagine such decisions are taken easily, let me further confess that I have never experienced greater stress than in those months, or more frequent disputes with my wife who was heavily pregnant and whose nest-building urges recoiled from the prospect of losing our home through surcharge. No sane person actually wants to find himself in confrontation with the power of the state and the majesty of Parliament over a point of principle.

The rhetorical trick played by Mrs Thatcher was to glide swiftly from condemning defiance of the law of public administration into denouncing as one and the same thing breaches of the criminal code. This is disingenuous. Local councillors are not roaming the streets at night with lengths of lead pipe looking for ratepayers to mug. Many of them know perhaps better than the members of the Cabinet the harrowing distress caused to their electors by street crime in the inner city areas.

The fundamental dishonesty is the suggestion that any Bill passed by Parliament, however partisan its origins or however contemptuous its nature, thereby gains the same legitimacy which the criminal law derives from its consensus support. In reality, outside the area of criminal law we are all selective as to which laws we regard as important to observe.

Even this government is selective as to which laws it enforces. While priding itself on additional expenditure for law and order it has reduced the ranks of those who police compliance with the laws passed by Parliament on health and safety at work, although there is greater risk of mutilation or death in the workplace than from assault on the streets. The same tale can be repeated about monitoring minimum wages set by wages councils appointed by parliamentary statutes. Government connivance at breaches of the law in these fields presumably

reflects a political judgment that some laws do not command the same absolute obedience as others.

Taken literally, Mrs Thatcher's strictures on "the supremacy of the law" would render improper any evaluation of the law by reference to other ethical codes or individual conscience. Yet history is littered with honourable examples of civil disobedience to unjust laws, aimed at forcing their abolition. Martin Luther King achieved international acclaim for a crusade explicitly centred on defiance of racist laws. Nearer home we recently celebrated the fiftieth anniversary of the mass trespass of Kinder Scout which asserted the moral right of access for the densely packed residents of industrial cities to the open moors around them.

Precedents can even be found in the history of local government in Britain. In the 1930s, when maintenance of the unemployed was still a charge on local authorities, George Lansbury led Poplar council in a refusal to hand over the precept on its rates to London County Council, in protest at the patent injustice of being required to pay the same contribution as more prosperous boroughs with a lighter burden. The subsequent imprisonment of Lansbury and his fellow councillors provoked such public outcry that the government was obliged to equalize the cost of unemployment relief across the London boroughs.

Mrs Thatcher argued last week that such defiance is to "deny the ascendancy of the ballot box". Yet the local councils are also returned by the ballot box, and the budgets they draw up are based on local judgments of local needs. In setting the aside to impose her own budget on councils Mrs Thatcher is not defending the ascendancy of the ballot box but asserting the superiority of those ballot boxes favourable to herself.

There is in Mrs Thatcher's statements a dangerous confusion of democracy with dictatorship by parliamentary majority - or worse, dictatorship not even by majority but by the minority of the electorate from whom that parliamentary majority is derived.

None of this is to deny that any deliberate infringement of the law must be a matter of great moment: to the extent that it weakens respect for the institution of the law, it is a matter of great regret. That is precisely why government should not use the law as an instrument by which it forces its own political preferences on local democracies, some of which will inevitably get at what they are being obliged to swallow.

The author is Labour MP for Livingston.



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LONG HAUL AT THE PITHEAD

The collapse and end of the miners' strike, though still beyond the horizon, already threatens to be as messy, divisive and damaging as the conduct of the dispute from the start. The accelerated drift back to work since negotiations finally ended has wrested the initiative in the dispute from the leadership of the National Union of Mineworkers. It cannot easily be regained. The drift back to producing pits can only help the Government's ability and determination to avoid power cuts. Time underlines the inability of other unions to deliver decisive industrial support. Indeed, it is now clear that further support from outside, apart from money, will consist of no more than peripheral gestures of solidarity.

Violence has been organized to a new and fearful level of lawlessness in pit villages, particularly in the strike's Yorkshire heartland. But this is only a sign that the violence of intimidation has turned into the yet uglier violence of frustration and despair among those most loyal to Mr Arthur Scargill. It will be seen as such and can only be counterproductive by convincing more wavering miners that Mr Scargill's cause is a losing one.

Such miners will be equally unimpressed by the self-confidence of the Home Secretary and some other ministers that the strike will soon be all over bar the shouting. There is as yet little evidence of this. Some 2,200 strikers returned to work last week according to the National Coal Board. At that rate, the strike could be a year old before a majority were back. This week, the pace has quickened sharply before next Monday's deadline for back allowances to be paid before Christmas. Many more may take that opportunity to make their private decision to

call off the strike, the only decision they are allowed to take. But once that deadline has passed, the pace may slacken again until the next arrives.

The strike is crumbling, but it is premature to claim it is collapsing. Miners themselves are perhaps the best judges of the trend. And those now returning to work seem to share a despair with those staying on strike that they do not know how and when it is going to end. We seem to be stuck in a bitter campaign of attrition.

Whatever the wider concerns of government, the NCB and the NUM are now sustained largely by the weight of losses they have already suffered. Mr Scargill seemed to acknowledge as much in a speech in Newcastle on Remembrance Sunday. If anyone should ask why the pain of the dispute should continue, he said, "I say you owe it to those who have died to win this struggle." In its settlement with the pit deputies, the NCB has already lost whatever new ground Mr MacGregor sought to gain. As Mr Jack Eccles, the TUC chairman, acknowledged, the NUM must eventually accept that it cannot impose a ban on closures of uneconomic pits that has never existed before.

Mr MacGregor must take some responsibility for the concept of attrition in this dispute - an alien one in British industrial relations, and so much less effective and flexible than the aggressive stick and carrot approach adopted by Sir Michael Edwards and his successors at BL. It is now clear that Mr Scargill also prepared for a long struggle from the start. It was the NUM leadership that ensured stalemate by refusing its members a national ballot and dividing them. The NUM alone can now help to shorten the agony of its members by calling a

clear that it is now prepared to negotiate for a settlement on the basis of the Coal Board's deal with the deputies.

The Government and the Coal Board now have little option but to stand firm and to pursue their successful new policy of expediting a return to work by co-ordinating greater protection from picket violence and by offering strikers a series of time-limited incentives to return to their jobs. Further negotiations would merely delay this process in the absence of a clear public commitment to compromise by the NUM. Nor should the Board be seduced by Dr David Owen's naive plan to negotiate on pay with working Nottingham miners in return for an end to the overtime ban - which was constitutionally approved by their union. Dr Owen has seriously misread the stance of the Nottingham miners. They rejected the strike call precisely because it was not in line with their reading of the NUM rulebook and are sensitive to any suggestion of disloyalty to their union.

The dispute may still have some time to run. Eventually, common sense dictates some formal settlement long before the last Scargill loyalist is forced bitterly back to work. The TUC, which missed its opportunity to play a constructive role at the time of the Nacods settlement, may then have a role to play in persuading the majority of the NUM executive to settle and helping them to salvage what face they can.

Then will be the time for Government to ensure that such a pit dispute can never happen again. And their priority will surely lie in restructuring the coal industry. New laws on public order should wait until existing laws are enforced.

DIRTY WARFARE

Chemical weapons produce a feeling of revulsion which is not all that easy to rationalize. It may be their insidious indiscriminate effects or the memories and tales of those who were gassed in the trenches of the First World War. The fact remains that only nuclear and perhaps germ warfare can provoke so much fear or sense of outrage.

The debate has been rekindled this year by a number of developments, including apparent confirmation that Iraq has used chemical weapons in the Gulf War, and a demand by Nato's Supreme Allied Commander in Europe (Saceur) that allied armies should be equipped with at least the potential to deploy the latest generation.

Still more recently a report published by the Institute for European Defence and Strategic Studies supported the call by Saceur, General Bernard Rogers, by insisting that the deployment of modern chemical weapons by Nato was the most effective way of deterring the Soviet Union from ever using its own growing stockpiles.

The use of chemical weapons is in fact banned by the Geneva Protocol of 1925, signed by countries still shocked by the attacks of the First World War. By and large its signatories have complied with its provisions. The Italians used gas against the Ethiopians in 1935, the Japanese did so several years later against the Chinese, while there have been reports of attacks more recently in South-East Asia and Afghanistan in addition to those emanating from the Gulf.

Use has been occasional rather than general, and has always been met by worldwide condemnation - however ineffectual. On the other hand this abstinence by the allied and axis powers during the Second World War and by most participants in the various imbroglios thereafter has probably had less to do with respect for the protocol than with doubts over the military effectiveness of chemical weapons and fears over the likelihood of retaliation.

The argument over military ineffectiveness may no longer hold water. Although climatic conditions are obviously important, modern binary-type munitions can be more safely stored, more accurately delivered and designed to cope with specific wartime requirements - long-lasting agents for use against enemy ports to keep them out of action, short-term gases to destroy the enemy front-line, clearing in time for one's own troops to follow up the attack.

The Russians clearly operate on the principle that such weapons might be used, as can be observed from their exercises. The mere threat to use them could force the other side into hot, heavy and debilitating protective gear which would impede their fighting efficiency.

Britain destroyed its stocks of chemical weapons in the 1950s. France is believed to have an undisclosed quantity. But only the Americans in Nato have substantial stores and even they have not made any since 1969. There is no doubt that the Soviets have the advantage in quality and quantity - and they continue to forge ahead.

Should the West try to catch them up? In recent years the emphasis has been on arms control. In 1972 an agreement was reached banning the use, production and stockpiling of biological weapons - and ever since there has been widespread hope that a similar convention might be drafted for chemical munitions too.

The argument put forward by General Rogers and the institute's author Manfred Hamm is twofold. In the first place they contend that no such reliable treaty is negotiable unless the West gives itself some bargaining power. In the second, Nato needs a retaliatory capability to respond in kind to a Soviet chemical attack. At present, the argument runs, it might have to resort to nuclear weapons. Chemical munitions like the precision-guided projectiles of Emergent Technology, are thus necessary to raise the nuclear threshold.

There is perhaps an argument for modernizing the stocks of American CW which already exist, if only to demonstrate to Moscow that the West has the will. But the chief objective must remain to build on what arms control measures there are - the Geneva protocol and the Microbiological Weapons Convention. So far success has been elusive. But it has not looked unattainable. For the West to divert from this course and opt for a matching deployment, would risk opening a Pandora's box which we might all have cause to regret.

WHOSE WATER IS IT ANYWAY?

There's no votes in sewage, according to an old adage adopted by the government in the 1983 Water Act. In the administration of water and sewage, votes were dispensed with: the role of councillors was effectively ended. Regional water authorities were to substitute business-like ways for their old municipal sloth. Government appointees were to supervise the drains and the faucets with efficiency and commercial acumen. As for votes and the trappings of elective politics, the government planned occasionally to wind up the water authorities' clock (the external financing limit) and, save for the occasional late-night parliamentary debate, let the aqueous machine run its own sweet way.

Maybe the farmers (interested parties in land drainage?), the industrialists (someone was responsible for building the white elephant of Kielder) and the quango-men who comprise the bulk of the authorities' membership are best fitted for complicated assessments of demand, financial planning and - after this summer's weather in the south west and Wales - the odd plea for divine intercession. In

the wake of the Chancellor's autumn statement, water rates are predicted to rise next year (and the years after that) by striking amounts - up to 20 per cent in some watersheds; maybe, still, such financial judgments are matters for boards of experts appointed in the Secretary of State's wisdom. Maybe. But how are we, the public which trusts water to flow from the tap and expects the balcock to rise and fall on cue, ever to know?

Water authorities meet in secret. It is not thought appropriate - as the chairman of the Water Authorities Association wrote to *The Times* the other week - to meet the public or lay open proceedings for public discussion. Secrecy, say the water bureaucrats and ministers, is a guarantee of efficiency. The model of the nationalized industries is advanced as justification: British Rail cannot operate commercially with its board's deliberations in the spotlight of publicity. But this model cannot apply directly to the water authorities. They tax; they have access to the rate-payers' income; can employ bailiffs to

in red ink. The householder can, to be sure, add to the economy of Malvern. Failing that the ratepayer pays a water tax without representation.

In the context of the miners' strike, the available models for running the nationalized industries cannot be held to be entirely satisfactory, especially those utilities to which consumer payments have some of the attributes of a tax. If the instruments of public accountability - ad hoc references to the Monopolies Commission, reports of the Public Accounts Committee, visitations by the National Audit Office - were better, the public's suspicions about nationalized industry efficiency would be diminished. As matters stand, a consumer of water, the Anglian Water Authority (already paying the highest rates in the country) facing successive years' increases well above the rate of inflation has good cause for alarm. If that authority's conclaves in Huntingdon were, just sometimes, open to public gaze the alarm would be less.

The necessary amendment to the Water Act could be inserted quickly and (the example of the Welsh authority shows what is possible) painlessly.

Matter of conscience for Synod on women's ordination

From the Right Reverend Lord Coggan
Sir, May I be allowed to add two points to the letter on the ordination of women to the priesthood, signed by 15 bishops, which appeared in your issue of November 10?

First, next Thursday's debate in the General Synod of the Church of England will be watched with anxious hope by many not only in these islands but also in other parts of the world-wide Anglican Communion. There are many provinces overseas where distress has been caused by the hesitation shown by the "Mother" Church in its debates on this issue over a long period. Members of the Anglican Communion are looking for a measure of bold leadership on the part of the Church of England.

Secondly, your correspondents mention the increasing strain on the loyalty of women who feel called to the priesthood and are unable to test their vocation. This is a matter of grave importance. I wish, in addition, to call attention to a similar strain on the loyalty of those bishops who find themselves in a dilemma which can only be resolved by a positive vote in the debate "to permit the ordination of women to the priesthood".

Let me illustrate. A young man with excellent qualifications and a deep sense of call presents himself to the bishop for ordination. The bishop interviews him and gladly sends him forward for testing by the Church and, it is hoped, ultimately for ordination.

A young woman with similar or better qualifications - and there are many such women - presents herself to the same bishop. He interviews her and is well satisfied. But he can only reply: "I cannot even send you forward for testing by the Church."

The ministry of the diocese is deprived and weakened. Its chief pastor is left fearing that he has been compounding the refusal of a call. "Too soon," on Thursday? Surely not. Rather, the time is ripe for a bold step forward.

Yours sincerely,
DONALD COGGAN,
Kingshead House,
Sittingbourne,
Canterbury,
Kent.
November 12.

falling-off of support on Thursday, quite the contrary.

Nor is it accurate to say that the movement for women's ordination bases its case on justice to women, though justice would do no harm. It is based on the fact that many women feel called to ordination, and we believe that their vitality and enthusiasm (theirs, not their daughters' and granddaughters', though they may seek ordination, too) would be of inestimable value to the Church and its leadership.

We have more confidence than Clifford Longley that General Synod is aware of this fact and will wish to take the important first step.

Yours faithfully,
MONICA FURLONG, Moderator, Movement for the Ordination of Women,
Napier Hall,
Hillside Place,
Vicars Street, SW1,
November 12.

From the Reverend Canon Brian Thompson
Sir, Fifteen bishops whom I know and respect plead that the time is right to proceed with the ordination of women in the Church of England (November 10).

It may seem a harsh judgment, but before offering more advice does not the House of Bishops first need to rebuild its credibility in the wake of recommending a set of proposals on the marriage of the divorced in church which have found such little acceptance in the dioceses and which a significant number of bishops themselves did not support?

Yours sincerely,
BRIAN THOMPSON,
St Mary's Rectory,
Church Street,
Woodbridge,
Suffolk,
November 10.

Final straw for council leader

From the Chairman of Buckinghamshire County Council
Sir, May I, in clarification, emphasise some aspects of Hugh Clayton's report today (November 8) about my standing down from the chair of this council next May.

It will be April, 1986, when our ratepayers first suffer the harsh consequences of the Government's continuing failure to allow fairly for what must be spent to provide basic commonsense services for our rapidly growing population.

The complex formula which will activate this crisis and which may mean a 50p in the pound rate increase, already exists. Recent legislation has added rigidity to an already inflexible situation.

The targets set by the Government above which each local authority should not spend in theory match the total of local government spending nationally. This may solve a problem between the Department of Environment and the Treasury but many targets are unjust.

Right across the country prudent Conservative councillors know their targets are unrealistic and ridiculous, and that to spend above them is inevitable if local services are not to break down or become the subject of rationing. Thus penalties will, as in Buckinghamshire, increasingly fall heavily on the same hapless ratepayers for whom the Government claims to stand champion.

I am not willing to countenance such injustice.

Yours faithfully,
ROGER PARKER JERVIS,
Chairman,
Buckinghamshire County Council,
Chairman's Room,
Judges Lodgings,
Aylesbury,
Buckinghamshire,
November 8.

Wisdom of hindsight

From the Editor of *The Economist*
Sir, You cite *The Economist* of 1980 in your first leader today (November 8), attributing to us the statement, "Democrats could scarcely have wished for an easier opponent if they had picked him themselves." That sentence did indeed appear in *The Economist* in March that year. It was immediately followed by the words, "That at least was the view until recently."

In 1965, as you point out, we - like others - may have been busy underestimating Mr Reagan. But not by 1980. The article you quote from four years ago was in fact entitled "Ronald Reagan - not to be underestimated". It went on to make many of the points you are now making over four years later: Mr Reagan has been surprising competent rivals for years. In 1966 Governor Pat Brown of California thought it absurd that he could be turned out of office by the television host of "Death Valley Days". Mr Reagan beat him by nearly 10 votes. "To treat Mr Reagan as unelectable would be a fatal underestimate for the Democrats."

The odd thing about your citing us incorrectly in this way is that in 1980 *The Economist* provoked wide comment in the American and British press when, three weeks before the election, it recommended Mr Reagan as its preferred candidate for president over Mr Carter.

In its own leader on the eve of the 1980 election, *The Economist* recognised advantages in Mr Reagan but also concluded that, in such an uncertain time, "there would be particular advantages" in continuing with the Carter Administration.

Yours faithfully,
ANDREW KNIGHT, Editor,
The Economist,
25 St James's Street, SW1,
November 8.

Nicaraguan conflict

From Dr Graham Jameson
Sir, Would John Carlin please spell out for the rest of us exactly what the Sandinistas have done to provoke the long-suffering United States Administration? His article (November 8) gives no specific examples and your own reports have rather given me the impression that the boot was on the other foot.

The Sandinistas are not, as far as I know, promoting an armed insurrection aimed at overthrowing the US Government. If Nicaraguan warships make a practice of lurking menacingly off US ports, we haven't been told about it. Nor have there been reports of the Sandinistas attempting to bribe Mr Mondale to withdraw from the US election, in order then to persuade the world that President Reagan's victory was worthless.

They have admittedly (again, according to your own reports) had the impertinence to mount a rather successful drive to instruct Nicaraguan villagers in subversive skills like reading and writing. Is this, perhaps, the type of activity that represents an insufferable challenge to President Reagan's blueprint for his "backyard"?

Yours sincerely,
GRAHAM JAMESON,
13 Sandown Road,
Lancaster,
November 9.

Multi-purpose numbers

From Mr Leslie C. Tatum
Sir, *The Times* Portfolio cards do have their uses after all!

For the past few weeks I have used the eight numbers on my card as the basis for a football pool entry.

Last Saturday, those eight numbers gave me six score draws, one no-score draw and one postponed match.

My winnings do not represent a fortune but a least they are more than various other combinations of numbers have produced in the past.

Yours gratefully,
LESLIE C. TATAM,
2 Elm Crescent,
Farnham,
Surrey,
November 8.

From the Reverend M. J. Moreton
Sir, What is worrying is not the one Bishop of Durham, but the 15 bishops, headed by the Bishop of Manchester. The Bishop of Durham wants to make us think; but the Fifteen are bent on doing permanent and irreparable damage to the Church of England. The Bishop of Durham will stir us up; but the Fifteen will divide the Church.

The Bishop of Durham seeks to explore the fundamental mysteries that are the source and unending spring of the Church's existence; but the Fifteen want to embark on a course of action that has no precedent whatsoever in Catholic tradition in either East or West.

Yours faithfully,
M. J. MORETON,
University of Exeter,
Department of Theology,
Queen's Building,
The Queen's Drive,
Exeter,
Devon,
November 11.

From the Moderator of Movement for the Ordination of Women
Sir, Clifford Longley's article, "Why the bishops will again blackball women priests" (November 12), seems a little out of touch with the facts. On November 8, 1978, when General Synod last voted on the issue of women's ordination, 32 bishops voted in favour and 17 against. We do not anticipate any

From the President of the Society of Industrial Artists and Designers and others
Sir, It is astounding that, with so much design talent available in this country, British Airways should reject that resource in favour of an American firm of consultants.

It is even more alarming that the corporate identity proposed for our national airline, relying as it does upon a badly designed and illegible heraldic device, perched incongruously above the remnants of the earlier instantly recognizable and appropriate solution, should shortly, and at great expense to the taxpayer, be the image of this country on the tarmac of the world.

Yours faithfully,
JUNE FRASER,
REILLY,
TERENCE CONRAN,
MONTY FINNISTON,
LESLIE JULIUS,
Society of Industrial Artists and Designers,
12 Carlton House Terrace, SW1,
November 1.

Parks for worship

From Mr Samuel Carr
Sir, You illustrate today (November 5) the new Buddhist pagoda which is being erected in Battersea Park. Why Buddhist? There is no lack of other sects and religions which might be glad to be offered space in the London parks for their churches and chapels, synagogues, temples and mosques. That the parks were conceived of as open spaces is an irrelevance now that such a precedent has been established.

Battersea Park comes under the guardianship of the GLC. Wishing to impute motives, it may be that this, as in other instances, the GLC intends thus to secure the support of a useful minority of voters.

Quis custodiet ipsos custodes, it might be asked, if we are to rely on the GLC to protect the interests of the majority of those who use the parks. And how fortunate that so many parks are royal.

Yours etc,
SAMUEL CARR,
46 Paultons Square, SW3.

Advertising and BBC

From Sir Richard Davies
Sir, The Chairman of the BBC has come out strongly against any idea that the corporation should take advertising as a way of meeting its rapidly rising costs. So far so good. I doubt there are many who think that this is what the BBC is for. But what is it for? Need we pay licence fees to subsidise its aggressive competition across the whole range of services offered free by the commercial companies? Are Radio 1 and 2 really necessary to keep up standards of taste in popular music programmes? Do local radio stations do anything that the local commercial stations do not? How much of BBC1 output

Harnessing the Severn

From Dr T. L. Shaw
Sir, I write with reference to Dr Andrew Lea's letter (October 31). From 1978 to 1981 the Severn Barrage (Bondi) Committee studied many schemes for power generation from the tides of the Severn Estuary. The committee, which included eminent representatives of organisations whose prime concern is for the environment, concluded that there was good reason for Government to undertake further work on the project.

In 1983 the Severn Tidal Power Group was appointed by the Secretary of State for Energy to carry out various studies complementing those of the committee including liaison with the "local authorities and other interested parties on the possible effects of the project on the infrastructure of the region bordering the estuary, including the environment".

To do the latter, it has been appropriate for the group to work through the recognized national and regional environmental bodies of which organizations like Dr Lea's Avon Wildlife Trust are members. This has allowed a fuller debate and hence appreciation of the impact of the scheme to be gained.

The data now available continue to confirm the broad conclusions of the committee that this project need

can truly be said to lead the way towards higher quality?

There certainly are programmes and services difficult to finance adequately by advertising, for one reason or another, and surely providing these are what licence fees are for.

With all the caution usual in dealing with a sacred cow I dare to suggest that careful consideration of questions like these would be a better use of time than thinking up new kinds of taxes, however "easy to collect" they may be. We might even be able to look forward to reduced licence fees!

Yours faithfully,
RICHARD DAVIES,
Comenden Manor,
Cranbrook, Kent.

not prove damaging to the environment, indeed there is increasing reason to believe that it would bring a number of significant benefits to an estuary not renowned for its biological productivity. However, the organizations and experts consulted are also unanimously of the view that much more work needs to be done before they can firmly establish their position. The group fully understand and support this concern, which was also held by the committee and was reflected in their recommendations.

The main thrust of Dr Lea's argument was also contained in a letter published by the *Bristol Evening Post* on October 24. Because of our present commitment to Government we then wrote to Dr Lea asking for sight of the evidence to support his claims. His reply to us did not give this.

The views which Dr Lea advances are out of step with our understanding of the possible effects of the project and, it seems, with generally informed opinion. Professor Wilson's fears (November 12) about wildfowl also appear to be unfounded. Our forthcoming report to the Secretary of State gives us the opportunity to present the evidence as we understand it.

Yours faithfully,
T. L. SHAW,
The Severn Tidal Power Group,
40 Bernard Street, WC1,
November 8.

ed. Perkins raised his hand for silence.
 "Thank you," he said simply, and
 the audience erupted again.

The crowd fell
 deathly quiet in tense expectation.
 "Match point!"

Roger Perkins, tall, trim and tanned, wiped
 his handsome brow, bounced the ball twice before
 hurtling down the service of a lifetime.

McEnroe gasped as the ball screamed past him.
 "Ace! Game! Set! Match!"
 Roger tossed his racket in the air, and
 the crowd rose as one man.

As Perkins strode purposefully into the
 crowded Cabinet Room, the Ministers rose nervously.
 "Any news, PM?" the Home Secretary
 whispered hoarsely.

"They've ignored our ultimatum," Perkins snapped,
 his pipe clenched in his firm manly jaw.

"We're at war, Gentlemen. And we're going to win."
 The PM's iron resolve sent a surge of hope and
 determination through the room.

The tall slim blonde shimmered into
 the laboratory and slid sensuously on to a stool.
 "Oh Doctor Perkins" she cooed, "you must
 rest. You haven't stopped for days."

"How can I stop now?" Roger said, pale and
 worn, but strangely handsome, "when I am so close to a
 cure for the disease which has bedevilled mankind."
 "Oh Doctor Perkins," she fluttered.

He wouldn't dream of being an engineer, of course.

Engineering has always been a bit of a dirty word in Britain.
 We may have pioneered the Industrial Revolution.
 We may have banked on our manufacturers for much of
 the nation's wealth.

But we have never made the fuss of our engineers that other
 countries have of theirs.

The young German, Japanese or American might well dream
 of being an engineer.

For he knows that he can rise to the highest positions, earn
 the greatest rewards, win the utmost respect.

Perhaps that explains why their industries are out-stripping
 our own.

It is certainly a reflection of the priority they place on them.
 And their success.

Last year for the first time in 200 years we imported more
 manufactured goods than we exported.

It's a crisis for Britain.

And The Engineering Council has been formed to tackle it.

To impress upon the country (and the City) the importance
 of our manufacturing, process and construction industries.

To encourage industry to invest more in training and
 competitive product innovation.

To persuade universities, polytechnics and schools to give
 engineering the utmost priority.

And to make sure our children, girls as well
 as boys, know the opportunities for engineers.

And the excitements.

For until our brightest children dream of
 engineering, we can't possibly dream of being
 a major industrial power again.



FIGHTING TO HELP BRITAIN MAKE IT

THE TIMES

FINANCE AND INDUSTRY

Executive Editor Kenneth Fleet

Too much reliance on state asset sales?

Mr Lawson, in his autumn statement on Monday, said that he was raising his forecast proceeds from privatization next year from £2,500 million. The extra £500 million of asset sales, with the trimming of the contingency reserve, is one of the main reasons why the Chancellor has been able to present next year's public spending total as only marginally in excess of his original estimate. Assessing whether the £500 million extra is realistically based or simply a fudge is difficult, not because it involves making judgments now about what price future privatization candidates will realize in a year or so's time.

That said, there are grounds for thinking that the figure is more fudge than fact. The Telecom issue is undoubtedly going well and looks like raising nearer £3,000 million before expenses flotation is still scheduled for next spring, and at this stage also looks like going well. Both these sales were included in the previous asset sale forecasts so new evidence is forthcoming from the Treasury about how the privatization targets - £1,900 million this year, £2,500 million next year and £2,000 million in 1986/7 - will be made up.

Many of the other targets on the privatization list will be either too small or take too long to come through to feature in next year's Treasury accounts. The National Bus Company, British Airports Authority and possibly the Royal Ordnance Factories are unlikely to reach the market before the 1986/87 financial year.

Apart from British Airways the onus on filling the gap next year looks like falling on Unipart and the warship yard of British Shipbuilders. A close reading of the autumn statement, however, shows that the proceeds of the shipyards sale are already provisionally included in next year's External Financing Limit for British Shipbuilders; to include it in the asset sale estimate would be a clear case of double counting.

A trend toward illusion has already become apparent in the current financial year. Though the Government raised more than £940 million from privatization, in three of the five sales involved (Witch Farm, Jaguar and Sealink) the proceeds have gone not to the Treasury, but to their former parent state industries (British Gas, B&I and British Rail).

One conclusion from this analysis is that the Treasury will fall back on some further dilution of its residual holdings in denationalized companies. Britoil must be top of the list, especially when the loyalty bonus to small shareholders had been paid out next November. Mr Peter Rees, the Chief Secretary has already made clear the Government will sell its remaining holdings (48 per cent in the case of Britoil) when market conditions dictate.

JMB shadow over deputy governor

The political row over the debacle at Johnson Matthey Bankers and the subsequent rescue by the Bank of England shows no sign of going away. Yesterday Dr David Owen, SDP leader, returned to the fray with a series of further detailed questions for the Governor of the Bank of England on the viability of JMB's bullion business. It also transpired that Mr Robin Leigh-Pemberton, the Governor, has offered Dr Owen a private and off-the-record briefing on the JMB affair.

According to private correspondence from the governor to Dr Owen, the Bank of England is worried that Dr Owen is receiving ill-founded information about JMB; the Bank is clearly concerned to set this right. It is unusual, although by no

means unique, for the Governor of the Bank of England to hold private discussions with politicians on matters in which they have a particular interest. Also unusual, although quite legitimate, is the way the Chancellor, last week asked the governor to field the questions which Dr Owen had been addressing to him.

The gist of Dr Owen's latest attack is largely the viability of JMB's continuing bullion and other businesses.

The Bank of England has maintained all along that apart from the commercial lending side of JMB, which gave rise to the enormous losses, the rest of the business is sound.

One possible consequence of the JMB affair is the effect it may have on the future of the deputy-governor Mr Christopher "Kit" McMahon, whose five-year term expires at the end of February. There is no indication whether Mr McMahon wishes to be reappointed or whether he has other plans. The deputy-governor's appointment is, like the Governor's a Crown Appointment and so in the Prime Minister's hands. There is already talk that the JMB affair may have prejudiced Mr McMahon's chances of reappointment. That would be a mistake.

Admittedly, Mr McMahon is not the kind of man who appeals to Mrs Thatcher because his political leanings are not hers. His first inclination, on hearing of Mr Leigh-Pemberton's appointment was to resign and seek another future. One of the Governor's most significant early contributions was to dissuade Mr McMahon from going. The deputy-governor still has a great deal to contribute.

'Shares for all' the American way

There are more ways of ensuring wider share ownership than pricing British Telecom shares at an irresistible level. Mr Stuart Speiser, a New York lawyer, yesterday, addressed the newly-formed City branch of the SDP on his SuperStock scheme. The audience was appropriate: the shares-for-all plan unveiled by Dr David Owen, the SDP leader, at the party's conference in Buxton is a close relative of SuperStock.

Mr Speiser's scheme envisages the creation of "capitalist income" for all. In this way, not only would the capitalist system be preserved but the need for "socialist income," in other words welfare payments, would eventually be removed.

In the American version, the 2,000 largest US companies would become SuperStock companies. At present they invest about \$300 billion (£238 billion) mainly through bank loans and retained profits. Under the scheme, all such investment would come from government-guaranteed loans, with shares of equivalent distributed free to the population.

The SuperStock companies would be required to distribute all profits. Corporation tax would disappear, dividends being taxed as income.

Every family in America would have a capital holding of \$100,000 within 20 years, and an annual "capitalist income" of \$10,000-\$20,000.

In theory, the plan provides a convenient compromise just this side of the capitalist-socialist halfway house. In practice, it would put the administrators of the SuperStock scheme in an all-powerful position, taking over from the market the role of allocation investment between companies.

Perhaps selling British Telecom cheaply is a better way after all!

Security Pacific in Tokyo link for inter-dealer broking

By Peter Wilson-Smith, Banking Correspondent

Security Pacific, the Californian bank, plans to take a 50 per cent stake in a joint company with Tullett & Tokyo Forax International in order to participate in the new style gilt market as an inter-dealer broker.

Tullett & Tokyo, which is 47 per cent owned by the biggest Japanese moneybroker, Tokyo Forax, ranks among the top three London money brokers.

Security Pacific is the ninth largest banking group in the US and is making a determined thrust into the British securities market. It has already reached agreement to buy the stock-brokers Hoare Govett and the stockjobbers Charles Pulley once Stock Exchange rules allow.

The Bank of England's proposals for the government securities market of the future envisage inter-dealer brokers

(IDBs) acting as brokers between the primary dealers who will make the market in government stocks.

Although many companies have already expressed interest in becoming primary dealers, Security Pacific and Tullett & Tokyo are the first publicly to express interest in becoming an IDB.

Security Pacific already owns an IDB in the US through RJM Securities. It is using RJM to form a link with Tullett & Tokyo.

RJM Securities will take a 50 per cent stake in a subsidiary company, Tullett & Tokyo Securities, which has an agreement with Cantor Fitzgerald, the New York firm, to deal in US government securities. However, this arrangement expires at the beginning of next February.

Mr Derek Tullett, chairman

of Tullett & Tokyo, said yesterday: "Our initial thrust will be to act as an IDB in the UK gilt market".

There have already been informal discussions with the Bank of England and some other companies are also understood to have expressed interest to the Bank in becoming IDBs. However, formal applications do not have to be in until next year. Mr Robert Smith, vice-chairman of Security Pacific, who heads the bank's global capital markets system, said RJM Securities would bring technology and expertise to the new venture.

He said that Security Pacific was still interested in becoming a primary dealer in the London gilt market, possibly through Hoare Govett.

Of the six IDBs in New York, two are owned and operated by British companies: Mercantile

House Holdings with Fundamental Brokers Inc and Mills & Allen International with Garban.

In April, Garban opened a London office to provide a service to the 33 United States primary dealers represented here.

Mercantile's Fundamental Brokers Inc is the largest of these brokers in the United States market and this broking service has now been extended to the United States primary dealers in London.

Security Pacific is planning to build a global merchant banking and securities capability with London and the United States as the centrepieces of the operation. The bank was an unsuccessful bidder for Continental Illinois's London merchant bank which was eventually bought by First Interstate Bank of California.

Hopes of base rate cut lift market

By David Smith, Economics Correspondent

Share prices in London reacted to news on Monday that the Chancellor's autumn statement. However, the rise of 9.6 to 924.3 in the FT 30-share index appears to have owed more to hopes of base rate cuts and the miners' drift back to work.

The statement does not appear to have had a big impact on gilts. Prices were down 1/4 to 1/2 on the day, despite a rise of 0.3 in the sterling index to 76.8. New fears over the US federal deficit sent gilts down.

The view of most City economists on the statement is that, while it was generally unsurprising, the Chancellor was optimistic on the economy and the ability to control spending.

Mr Malcolm Roberts, chief economist at Lait & Cruickshank, said: "We believe the Chancellor will overshoot the new programme forecasts by at least £3 billion, since many of the individual programmes look impossible to implement and the background assumptions on growth and unemployment are unrealistic".

Mr Mike Osborne, of Grieve-Son Grant notes that the Treasury has been forced to concede £1.9 billion to other departments, as indicated by a £0.75 billion reduction in the reserve, £0.5 billion in extra asset sales, £0.4 billion in extra council house sales and £0.3 billion upward revision in the public spending target from £131.7 billion to £132 billion.

However, Mr Osborne cites targets for local authorities and nationalized industries as being very tight, and expects the Chancellor to raise his PSBR target for 1985-86 from £7 billion to £8 billion in the Budget.

Hoare Govett is also slightly sceptical about the PSBR target for 1985-86, expecting £7.5 billion.

Mr Gavin Davies, of Simon & Coates, says that while the figures in the statement are "massaged," this should not worry financial markets. He argues that in some areas, notably debt interest and the national income adjustment, the overall public spending projections could be too high.

White House sees higher deficits

From Bailey Morris, Washington

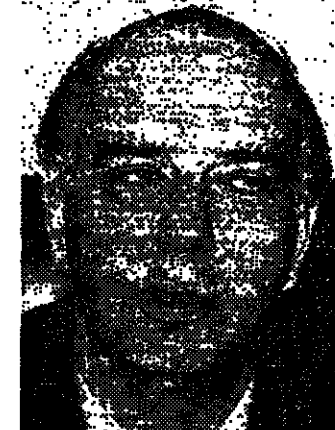
Leading Reagan Administration officials meeting this week to prepare the President's new budget have leaked sensitive information to the press that the federal deficits are much higher than official forecasts and could total more than \$190 billion for the next three years.

The new forecasts were presented to a working group meeting this week to shape the Administration's fiscal policies amid growing concern that prospects for substantial action to reduce the deficits are dim.

Disclosure of the new forecasts puts strong political pressure on Mr Reagan who stated repeatedly during his reelection campaign that tax increases proposed by Democrats were unnecessary because the deficits were dropping due to strong US economic growth. Earlier, the Administration said the deficits this year would drop to \$172 billion from an earlier forecast of \$179 billion and that it would decline eventually to \$161 billion by 1989.

But administration officials now say that under current policies, given the sharp reduction in the United States growth which slows to 2.7 per cent in the third quarter, the deficits would be sharply higher, putting renewed upward pressure on interest rates and perhaps aborting the recovery altogether.

This message comes when the United States Federal Reserve Board, chaired by Mr Paul Volcker, has taken steps to ease monetary policy to bring down



Paul Volcker: Fed easing monetary policy

interest rates in order to stimulate the flagging economy. The Fed's decision to ease credit controls at a meeting on October 2 was disclosed late last week when the minutes of the meeting were made public.

Wall Street analysts said, however, that they did not believe the central bank had taken additional steps to ease controls at a subsequent meeting. "A growing number of people are beginning to feel that despite additional declaration in the economy, the Fed has done all it is going to do for now, indicating stabilizing interest rates," Mr Dan Holland, an assistant vice-president, of the Discount Corporation, said.

The combination of rising deficits, slowing growth, and stabilizing interest rates at still high levels, presents the Administration with both a fiscal and political dilemma.

Strategic ore stock run down

By Michael Prest

Public spending cuts have forced the Government to dispose of the strategic mineral stockpile which it began to build up less than two years ago. Running down reserves of materials vital to British industry represents a reversal of policy reached in the wake of the Falklands conflict.

Mr David Trippier, under-secretary of state at the Department of Trade and Industry, when answering a parliamentary question put by Mr Tim Eggar, Conservative MP for Enfield North, said: "The Government has decided that it is no longer necessary to hold a mineral stockpile and will be disposing of it over the next few years".

In February last year the Government announced it would buy certain minerals considered to be vital to industry and whose supply was vulnerable to disruption. The DTI said yesterday that £40m had been spent on raw materials.

A Department spokesman said yesterday: "Nothing has changed, but the Government has decided it is no longer necessary bearing in mind the pressure on the Department's expenditure".

Metal trade officials said the Government had bought about three months' supply of ferro-vanadium, ferro-chrome, manganese, cobalt and tantalum. The first three are believed mainly to have been supplied by South Africa. These stockpiles were stored on the premises of Johnson Firth Brown, steelmakers, in Sheffield.

£1bn flows to societies

Building society net inflows reached a monthly record during October, usually a good month, topping £1 billion for the first time: £1.12 billion was taken against the previous record of £968m last October.

Mortgage demand rose to £2 billion, against £1.9 billion in September, with the number of mortgages promised also rising. The record net receipts in October played a large part in the societies' recent decision to cut their interest rates.

The societies expect inflows of roughly £600 million this month.

The Bristol & West building society and the Trustee Savings Bank both cut mortgage rates by one per cent point yesterday. The new Bristol & West rate is 11.75 and the TSB's is 12 (a real annual rate of 12.8).

STOCK EXCHANGES

FT-SE 100 Index: 1183.1 up 11.0 (high: 1188.1; low: 1175.2)
FT Index: 924.3 up 9.6
FT All Shares Index: 83.43 up 0.06
Bargains: 22.537

Dataseam USM Leaders Index: 105.34 down 0.04
New York: Dow Jones Industrial Average (latest) 1213.66 down 5.53
Tokyo: Nikkei Dow Jones Index 11,285.16 up 30.04

CURRENCIES

STERLING
Index 76.8 up 0.3 (range 76.9-76.7)
\$1.2740 up 65pts
DM 3.7425 up 0.0050
FF 11.4750 up 0.01
Yen 306.00 up 0.75

Dollar Index 137.8 down 0.6
DM 2.9365 down 0.0105
NEW YORK LATEST
Sterling \$1.2725
Dollar DM 2.9455

INTERNATIONAL
ECU £0.59672
SDR £0.800748

INTEREST RATES

Domestic rates:
Bank base rates 10
Finance houses base rate 1.1
Discount market loans week fixed 10 1/2-10
3 month interbank 9 1/4-9 1/2

Euro-currency rates:
3 month dollar 9 1/4-9 1/2
3 month DM 5 1/4-5 1/2
3 month FF 1 1/4-1 1/2

US rates:
Bank prime rate 11.75
Fed funds 9 1/4
Treasury long bond 10 1/2-10 3/4
ECGD Fixed Rate Sterling Export Finance Scheme IV Average reference rate for interest period October 3 to November 6, 1984, inclusive: 10.816 per cent.

GOLD

London fixed (per ounce):
am \$350 pm \$350.45
close \$349.50-350.00 (£274.274.50)
New York (latest): \$349.00
Kruggerand (per coin): \$360.361.50 (£282.50-283.50)
Sovereigns (new): \$82-83.50 (£64.50-65.25)
*Excludes VAT

NEWS IN BRIEF

Burton staff incentives rise 42%

High Street clothes retailer Burton Group made pretax profits of £56.4 million in the year to September 1, 1984, against £39.1 million in 1983-3. The chairman, Mr Ralph Halpern, received salary and profit-related incentives of £348,000 against £199,000 in 1983, a 75 per cent increase. Directors' salaries rose 26.5 per cent.

Tempos, page 18

Land Securities' half-year figures show a rise in rental income to £63.6 million and income before tax to £45.4 million compared with the previous half year's level of £41.8 million. Interim dividend will be 2.6p per share which, with related tax credit, is equal to 3.714p.

Tempos, page 18

De La Rue is paying an interim dividend of 8.25p, up 25 per cent, after pretax profits rose from £14.2 million to £17.7 million for the six months to September 30, 1984.

Tempos, page 18

Secombe Marshall & Campion is paying an unchanged dividend of 6p. Trading in the first half of the year, to October 31, has been satisfactory.

Tempos, page 18

Oxford Instruments is paying an interim dividend of 0.4p for the six months to September 30, after pretax profits rose from £1.8 million to £2.3 million.

Tempos, page 18

End to liability for unpaid NI

A concerted lobby by the Institute of Directors, the Chambers of Commerce and other business groups has finally persuaded the Department of Health and Social Security to give up its right to make directors of failed companies personally liable for unpaid National Insurance contributions.

Mr Anthony Newton, the

Minister for Social Security, has said that Section 152(4) of the 1975 Social Security Act will be repealed "as soon as the opportunity arises" and that, in the meantime, the department will take no further action.

The power to override limited liability came to the fore during discussion of the Government's proposals to improve insolvency law and

punish rogue directors.

It was said that the department's power, often applied with rigour even to non-executive directors or those who left a board before a company collapsed, was a deterrent to recruiting new blood, or company doctors, to help ailing companies and could result in disproportionate hardship for directors.

British Gas fights off critics and insists on Norway supply

By David Young, Energy Correspondent

British Gas remains convinced that it will need supplies from the Sleipner field in the Norwegian sector of the North Sea to meet demand from its domestic and industrial users in the 1990s.

At the same time it is repeating its opposition to exports of gas from the British sector ever being allowed by the Government.

British Gas, in a detailed analysis of gas available in the North Sea, has attempted to answer its critics who have suggested that enough gas is available in the British sector to meet its needs.

The corporation has been criticized by the Treasury for its proposed £20 billion contract with the Norwegian state oil company, Statoil, on the grounds of the effect it will have on the balance of payments.

Sectors of the oil industry have criticized the deal, saying that it will threaten the viability

Filling the Supply/Demand Gap (million cubic feet a day)

	1980	1985	2000
UK fields under negotiation	1200	1400	900
Other UK fields	200	1000	1200
Sleipner	-	800	1200
Total uncontracted requirement	1400	3600	4300

of smaller fields in the British sector.

Yesterday, British Gas repeated its assurance that it will take all gas that is commercially available from the British sector of the North Sea and is planning to buy from all the 45 projected fields in the area before the end of the century.

The Sleipner contract has taken 18 months to negotiate and awaits approval between the British and Norwegian governments. Gas is due to flow from 1991 and last until 2010.

Mr Bob Evans, the British Gas Chief executive, said yesterday: "All our plans have the same starting point - our customers' needs. Sleipner gas is necessary to give our

customers what they need and want, assured gas supplies."

British Gas says in its analysis: "Decisions taken now will affect Britain's supplies well into the next century. British Gas more than any other organization needs to feel confident that they are the right decisions, because the corporation alone has a statutory duty to develop and maintain an efficient co-ordinated gas supply for Britain."

The corporation says that because of its statutory obligation it would be too risky to base plans on the basis of gas that may or may not be available.

It says: "What would be at stake would be the security of gas supplies to British homes and businesses. British Gas cannot gamble with its customers' supplies."

There is also a broad consensus on the prospects for rising gas demand for the rest of the 1990s and for a continuing high level of gas sales in the 1990s, even after efforts to conserve energy have been taken into account."

Land Securities

Interim Results

The unaudited consolidated revenue account for the six months ended 30th September 1984 shows:-

Year to 31.3.84	£m	Six months to 30.9.84	£m	Six months to 30.9.83	£m
	118.1		63.6		56.7
	12.6		5.7		5.9
	6.4		1.5		3.7
	2.6		7		1.8
	137.7		71.5		68.1
	8.9		4.6		4.4
	15.0		7.1		6.9
	10.1		4.8		5.1
	34.0		16.5		16.4
	103.7		55.0		51.7
	8		-		4
	17.1		8.2		8.6
	1.8		1.4		9.6
	84.0		45.4		41.8
	33.3		20.4		21.7
	50.7		25.0		20.1
	10.23p		4.96p		4.05p

Note 1: As at 30.9.84 the 10% Convertible Unsecured Loan Stock had been converted in full into ordinary shares.

Note 2: The taxation charge for the six months period is computed at the standard rate of 45% (1983: 52%) whereas the charge for the year will reflect relief arising on expenditures on properties and other adjustments. Mainly as a consequence of changes in taxation allowances, the relationship between the effective and standard rates of tax for the year will be closer than in the previous year.

Note 3: The earnings per ordinary share for the six months to 30.9.83 have been adjusted to reflect the two for five capitalisation issue authorised in November 1983.

The Directors have declared an interim dividend of 2.6p per share which, together with the related tax credit, is equivalent to 3.714p. In November 1983 the interim dividend declared, after the adjustment to reflect the two for five capitalisation issue authorised later that month, was 2.357p per share, equivalent to 3.367p including the tax credit. The dividend which, excluding advance corporation tax, will absorb £13.1m (1983: £11.7m) will be paid on 17th December 1984 to shareholders registered on 22nd November 1984.

The figures for the year to 31st March 1984 are abridged from the Group's full accounts to that date which received an unqualified auditors' report and have been filed with the Registrar of Companies.

LAND SECURITIES PLC

Devonshire House, Piccadilly, London W1X 6BT

STOCK MARKET REPORT

Bae flies against the trend with a dip

By Derek Pain and Pam Spooner

British Aerospace flew against the market trend yesterday, dipping 10p to 375p at one stage before recouping pennies to close at 378p.

One of Bae's most glib customers is getting close to make or break time with its unions, and City analysts are worried about side-effects on Bae's order book. Pacific Southwest Airlines has a contract to buy 20 146 aircraft from the British group and an option to buy another 25.

PSA is trying to sell a pay package reduction deal to the Teamsters Union, and any hitch in that deal going through could lead to a big cash crisis at the airline, which is well-known as the official carrier for Disneyland.

Mr Matthew Windridge at analyst Quilter, Goddison, the broking firm said: Even if the Teamsters agree the proposals, PSA is unlikely to have the cash to take up its option on those 25 146s. Each 146 is worth roughly \$15 million.

PSA finishes its presentation to the Teamsters at the end of this week, and a vote from the union is expected by the end of the month.

Rothmans International, the tobacco group, recovered part of Monday's fall yesterday as the market adopted a less distressed attitude to the profits set-back by Carling O'Keefe, its Canadian brewing offshoot. Although Carling's profits are expected to be down by 20 per cent and this has prompted analysts to pull back their forecasts from approaching £180 million to about £170 million, the shares gained 4p to 152p.

The month. The pilots' union is expected by the end of the month. The pilots' union at PSA has already agreed to the package, which involves a 15 per cent cut in total pay and a 15 per cent stake in PSA and stock and profit-sharing plan for the workers.

If the deal is not accepted, the future looks bleak for PSA, leaving Bae short of one of its best customers. PSA has already warned, though probably as part of "scare the union" tactic, that the airline might have to file for protection under the Chapter 11 bankruptcy rules in order to make a full refinancing deal.

On Wall Street and in London yesterday the words "Chapter 11" sent shivers down some spines. Equities again stretched to a new peak with even the old fashioned FT 30 share index which has been limping behind the other leading market indicators, at last reaching a record level.

At the close the FT 30 was up 9.6 points at 924.3 points, topping its May peak by 1.5 points. The more broadly based FT-SE index closed at 1,183.7

points, up 8.6 points. "Footsie" finished a little below the day's best level.

The looming presence of British Telecom was a prime factor in yesterday's rush to new heights. With the expectations of institutional investors now being heavily scaled down, many fund managers are finding they have too much cash in their kitty.

Hence the growing pressure of institutional buying. With growing hopes that interest rates will fall and the pit strike looking weaker as more miners drift back to work there was an atmosphere of heavy buying excitement.

Some institutional investors, however, are far from happy about the method being adopted for the scaling down. A discretionary approach is being used with in some cases institutional entitlements are being reduced to 30 per cent of original expectations. The vast underwriting operation is now effectively completed.

Imperial Group, the cigarette, tobacco group, jumped 7p to 171p as rumours swirled that Philip Morris, the big American tobacco group, had built up a 4 per cent stakeholding.

The Imps share progress was also accompanied by speculation that its long signalled deal to sell its troublesome American hotels and restaurants chain, Howard Johnson, was at last nearing completion.

A Ho-Jo sale could eliminate Imps borrowings and leave the group with ammunition to mount a significant acquisition in this country. One suggestion going the rounds is that it wants to expand its brewing operations and could well bid for one of the two Ellerman Lines breweries - J. W. Cameron and Tollemache and Cobbold Breweries.

Group Lotes was unchanged at 62p as it was disclosed that most of the shareholding of the late Colin Chapman had been acquired by J. C. Barnford Investments, the earth moving equipment group, and clients of J. Henry Schroder Wagg, the merchant bankers.

Spring Ram Corporation, the kitchen and bathroom group, has placed 1.5 million shares at 133.5p to raise almost £2 million. The shares were unchanged at 143p.

Savoy Hotel was again in demand. The low voting "A" shares jumped 21p to a 371p peak as rumours continued to flow that the long running takeover deadlock with Trusthouse Forte is about to be resolved. The powerful, high voting "B" shares jumped £10 to £95. Meanwhile THF was unchanged at 135p.

Rugby Portland Cement hardened to 131p. Speculation about a share stake build-up continued to persist.

Coates Paton, the textile group, came in for a run, jumping 6p to 137p.

Beers were again in demand with Bass, Allied-Lyons and Scottish and Newcastle Breweries moving ahead sharply. Grand Metropolitan was up 8p to 316p. After the recent space

of downgrading profit forecasts a number of brokers are settling around the £350 million area for the year ended last September. One to shoot for this profit level is Pender and Boyle.

A number of brokers have recently cut their forecast to, in some cases, as low as £325 million. At one time the City was going for about £370 million.

Strong & Fisher, the tannery and leather goods group, took a knock as Mr Asil Nadir, the Turkish businessman and chairman of Polly Peck, sold his 24.9

per cent stake in S & F to the institutions.

S & F shares slumped 23p to 140p, roughly the price at which Mr Nadir's Restro Investments sold the shares. He bought the stake for 70p a share earlier this year.

Mr Nadir says he wants to "demonstrate visibly" his "intentions to devote his time fully to Polly Peck". He has been criticised in the City for dissipating his investment effort.

Polly Peck's share price dipped 7p to 247p as the news came through, although the Strong & Fisher transaction had little influence on that. Polly Peck shares looked to be hit by profit-taking after gains in the past week ahead of profit figures which are due out soon.

Government stocks failed to join in the market euphoria. They started well, but then prices relaxed on forecasts of a bigger US deficit and at the close losses of up to 1½p were evident. More of the 9½ per cent Exchequer 1998 tap was sold.

One beneficiary of the British Telecom flotation is Cable and Wireless. It is the nearest share to the stock market as BT. As a result, the shares were unchanged at 143p.

Tisbury Brewery, the last-making traditional beer company floated in the city four years ago, appears to be on the verge of merging with a public house business. If the deal, a classic reverse takeover, goes through, Tisbury shares will have little influence in the combined group. They were sold at up to 110p. Today's price just 10p.

result the price has been strong and yesterday C and W rose 11p to 356p.

Ahead of today's eagerly awaited Commercial Union figures, composite insurances were strong. CU was up 7p to 173p; General Accident gained 14p to 485p and Royal Insurance rose 11p to 491p.

Oils were mixed with leaders like Lasso up to 12p. Barnham was 3p ahead at 343p. But some explorers succumbed to profit taking.

Motor component shares continued to back in the reflection of Lucas Industries, up a further 5p to 262p at one time on its Monday results.

De La Rue firmed 20p to 760p on its 20 per cent increase in interim profits. GEI Engineering, half way profits 59 per cent higher, firmed 13p to 92p.

USM stock firmed 9p to 108p on news that the company has won the toy merchandising rights to the forthcoming film "Ghostbusters".

Monday's equity turnover was valued at £294,986 million, from 19,574 bargains. Gilt transactions totalled 3,689. Total number of UK and Irish stocks traded were 179.9 million.

TEMPUS

Burton steps up pressure for profits

Burton Group's 1983/4 results measured up to the market's ambitious expectations. Taxable profits were up 44 per cent, turnover up 39 per cent and dividends up 30 per cent.

But Mr Ralph Halpern, the expansionist-minded chairman, believes there is a long way to go in the quest for higher profits and greater market share. He has plans for 500 more shops, 400 of them in the next three years. The main thrust is going into Principles, the new chain for sophisticated women aged 25 to 45 years; there are plans for 250 shops. 50 by the end of this financial year.

There are 19 Principles now trading and sales per square foot are above the Burton average and well above the industry average. This is in contrast to steadily rising sales per square foot across the group. Volume increases last year were 15 per cent and, although the rise was slightly less in the second half than the first, Burton thinks there is more to be squeezed out of existing space. Margins widened to 13.3 per cent from 12.6 per cent.

The remaining turnover gains were 4 per cent due to inflation and 16 per cent due to new space. A total 166 stores were added, including the 93 Fenton stores, which broke even in their first six months with Burton after three years of losses with Combined English Stores.

Capital expenditure this year will be much the same as last year's £67.5m and will again be financed from cash flow. Burton remains unencumbered, but its cash pile was reduced to £3.5m last year from £18m.

The City is looking for profits of £68m, which puts Burton on a prospective p/e ratio of 14.8. The share had discounted the profits rise and closed 1p down at 373p, but only 1p off their high for the year.

De La Rue

Valuing De La Rue is not easy, even after yesterday's 15p jump in the share price to 755p. At this level, the shares more or less look to have outperformed the market over the last year. But prospective pretax profits of £42.5 million

for the year to March 1985 still leave the group selling on an undemanding multiple of about 11.

Working the sums round the other way, and breaking the total group market capitalization of £288 million into notional divisional components, still gives a fairly undemanding figure. Crossfield Electronics, for example, the group's high quality colour printing side, now looks to be coming good and may make £10 million in trading profits. This equals a net worth of perhaps £100 million.

But the security interests look underpriced at £185 million. The interim jump in profits of 42 per cent owes a lot to pent-up note demand from the Third World. Despite IMF credit controls, De La Rue's 80 or so client countries are replacing their bank notes on rolling programmes, and the group is also increasing its market share. The boost from exchange rate swings also helped returns.

Bid hopes may be in the share price for nothing, and the 25 per cent rise in the dividend could prove more forward looking than the market suspects.

Land Securities

Land Securities' half-year results show no surprises and are broadly in line with market expectations. Rental income has increased to £63.6m largely due to the letting of King William Street House and 12-23 Fenchurch Street. More will be on the way with news that at last Devonshire House in Piccadilly is half let. But it is the closed nature of the portfolio which is of interest to investors. Land Securities has been concerned lately with developing what it already owns by buying in freeholds and re-structuring leases but no acquisitions outside this are lacking.

Land Securities is looking at new opportunities and may possibly turn its attention to the retail field for investments. However, it may have a problem in that it would have to raise money to embark on any significant buying programme. Laing & Cruikshank, the stockbroker, believes that Land

Securities will have to raise cash; this would be best a large debenture issue allied with a capitalization of interest, something it has not done since 1978. The alternative would be a rights issue which would not help the company's share price.

In addition to the possibility of expanding the portfolio into other areas outside its heavy involvement with offices in the City and the West End, there has been the need to refurbish those buildings which form a large part of the Land Securities assets.

However, as the refurbishment programme comes to an end, and development opportunities within the portfolio diminish, the company must become more active in the property market if it wants to see growth.

Interest rates are going the right way for the company but the conservative nature of Land Secs means it is unlikely to suddenly embark upon a massive spending spree. The share price was unchanged at 312p.

Secombe Marshall

Gills endured a tiny fit of jitters yesterday, and short yields ended at 10½ per cent. Early confusion stemmed from the Government Broker's funding tactics, when the new tap was supplied at the equivalent of 9½ per cent. The GB was mistakenly thought to have exhausted the stock. Exchequer 9½ per cent 1998.

Later, the Bank of England declined to operate in the bill market at rates on offer from the houses. This intimation of official displeasure at the market's eagerness to speed up the next base rate cut unsettled nerves a trifle.

Such ripples help to explain the decision by Secombe Marshall & Campion not to try for a primary dealership in the new gilt market. Secombe, Bank of England Brokers for most of the century has made enough profit in the first half of the year from gilt trading to pay an unchanged dividend, but not enough to shake the house's basic agnosticism about likely returns, post Big Bang, for gilt dealers.

Instead, the house hopes to stick to its last as a dealer in

short money market instruments. It may take on outside capital; it may link up with another financial intermediary. But the house sees the future as an exciting jungle covered by a thick fog: the shares were unchanged at 364p.

Oxford Instruments

BOC Group sold its entire 10 per cent holding in Oxford Instruments in August. The 1984 accounts revealed directors' disposals. The shares have consistently underperformed in the last month, quarter, and year. But should the interim results, with profits ahead by 28 per cent, start to reverse the trend?

An unchanged price yesterday of 278p, after early slippage as low as 271, indicates some suspension of disbelief, willing or otherwise. The interim figures have absorbed Japanese start-up costs of some £100,000, plus British reorganization costs. Full-year profits are veering towards the £8m mark, but may hit £9m. A number of products are on the way.

Doubts remain about the long-term growth potential for magnets in diagnostic scanners. Oxford's principal product, as governments cut back on health-care capital expenditure. Ignoring the very sharp rise in taxation - unlikely to be reversed since Oxford's capital expenditure has dropped by 75 per cent - investors' real concern should focus on the growing scale of research and development expenditure, relative to the dividend payout.

In a bid to launch new products, Oxford has raised its R&D disbursements to 12 per cent of sales, or about £3m at the half-way stage.

The dividend, by contrast, costs just £178,000, leaving the shares yielding a target 0.7 per cent or so. Given the scale of Oxford's technology war, a sharp hike in the dividend to provide a decent yield seems unlikely. This leaves the share rating highly dependent on the discount capital growth element in the share rating.

Perhaps recognition of all this has prompted so much selling. The shares look as vulnerable as those of high technology company seeking another product breakthrough.

FOREIGN EXCHANGES

The dollar slipped back at the expense of sterling in thin trading. Dealers had been waiting for a new lead from the US which reopened after the Veterans' Day holiday.

However, after an initial burst of activity in the opening session, rates steadied, and only

fluctuated within narrow ranges for the rest of the day.

The pound closed higher against the dollar at 1.2740 - below the best, but above the overnight of 1.2675. The pound closed at 3.7425, up from 3.7375, against the Deutsche mark.

STERLING SPOT AND FORWARD RATES

Market rates	Market rates
New York	1.2710-1.2715
London	1.2710-1.2715
Frankfurt	1.2710-1.2715
Paris	1.2710-1.2715
Geneva	1.2710-1.2715
Basel	1.2710-1.2715
Brussels	1.2710-1.2715
Amsterdam	1.2710-1.2715
Stockholm	1.2710-1.2715
Copenhagen	1.2710-1.2715
Helsinki	1.2710-1.2715
Oslo	1.2710-1.2715
Stockholm	1.2710-1.2715
Copenhagen	1.2710-1.2715
Helsinki	1.2710-1.2715
Oslo	1.2710-1.2715

1 month	3 months	6 months	12 months
0.0000-0.0005	0.0000-0.0005	0.0000-0.0005	0.0000-0.0005
0.0000-0.0005	0.0000-0.0005	0.0000-0.0005	0.0000-0.0005
0.0000-0.0005	0.0000-0.0005	0.0000-0.0005	0.0000-0.0005
0.0000-0.0005	0.0000-0.0005	0.0000-0.0005	0.0000-0.0005

DOLLAR SPOT RATES

Market rates	Market rates
New York	1.2710-1.2715
London	1.2710-1.2715
Frankfurt	1.2710-1.2715
Paris	1.2710-1.2715
Geneva	1.2710-1.2715
Basel	1.2710-1.2715
Brussels	1.2710-1.2715
Amsterdam	1.2710-1.2715
Stockholm	1.2710-1.2715
Copenhagen	1.2710-1.2715
Helsinki	1.2710-1.2715
Oslo	1.2710-1.2715
Stockholm	1.2710-1.2715
Copenhagen	1.2710-1.2715
Helsinki	1.2710-1.2715
Oslo	1.2710-1.2715

OTHER Z RATES

Market rates	Market rates
New York	1.2710-1.2715
London	1.2710-1.2715
Frankfurt	1.2710-1.2715
Paris	1.2710-1.2715
Geneva	1.2710-1.2715
Basel	1.2710-1.2715
Brussels	1.2710-1.2715
Amsterdam	1.2710-1.2715
Stockholm	1.2710-1.2715
Copenhagen	1.2710-1.2715
Helsinki	1.2710-1.2715
Oslo	1.2710-1.2715
Stockholm	1.2710-1.2715
Copenhagen	1.2710-1.2715
Helsinki	1.2710-1.2715
Oslo	1.2710-1.2715

MONEY MARKETS

Period rates	Period rates
1 month	10.00-10.25
3 months	10.00-10.25
6 months	10.00-10.25
12 months	10.00-10.25
1 month	10.00-10.25
3 months	10.00-10.25
6 months	10.00-10.25
12 months	10.00-10.25

EURO-3 DEPOSITS

Period rates	Period rates
1 month	10.00-10.25
3 months	10.00-10.25
6 months	10.00-10.25
12 months	10.00-10.25
1 month	10.00-10.25
3 months	10.00-10.25
6 months	10.00-10.25
12 months	10.00-10.25

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BCCI 10%
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Consolidated Crds 10½%
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Midland Bank 10%
Nat Westminster 10%
TSB 10%
Williams & Glyn's 10%
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COMMODITIES

LONDON COMMODITY PRICES
Rubber in £/c per tonne. Coffee, sugar, wheat, etc. in £/c per metric ton.

Commodity	Price
Rubber	100.00
Coffee	100.00
Sugar	100.00
Wheat	100.00
Barley	100.00
Oats	100.00
Maize	100.00
Soyabean	100.00
Wheat	100.00
Barley	100.00
Oats	100.00
Maize	100.00
Soyabean	100.00

LONDON METAL EXCHANGE

Metal	Price
Copper	100.00
Aluminium	100.00
Lead	100.00
Zinc	100.00
Nickel	100.00
Platinum	100.00
Gold	100.00

LONDON INTERNATIONAL FINANCIAL

Instrument	Price
US Govt Bond	100.00
UK Govt Bond	100.00
Swiss Franc	100.00
Japanese Yen	100.00

LONDON GRAIN FUTURES MARKET

Grain	Price
Wheat	100.00
Barley	100.00
Oats	100.00
Maize	100.00

WALL STREET

New York (Reuters) - Wall Street stock prices weakened further yesterday in dull early trading.

The Dow Jones industrial average fell ¼ point to 1,214. Overall, losing issues topped gaining issues seven to five.

Company	Price
IBM	100.00
AT&T	100.00
General Electric	100.00
Westinghouse	100.00
Rockwell International	100.00
Boeing	100.00
Lockheed	100.00
Northrop	100.00
Grumman	100.00
McDonnell Douglas	100.00
Boeing	100.00
Lockheed	100.00
Northrop	100.00
Grumman	100.00
McDonnell Douglas	100.00

INVESTMENT TRUSTS

Trust	Price
Investment Trust	100.00
Investment Trust	100.00
Investment Trust	100.00
Investment Trust	100.00
Investment Trust	100.00
Investment Trust	100.00
Investment Trust	100.00
Investment Trust	100.00
Investment Trust	100.00
Investment Trust	100.00

Saatchi's \$100m for US expansion

By Philip Robinson

APPOINTMENTS

Yarrow to head Clydesdale

Clydesdale Bank: Sir Eric Yarrow will succeed Sir Robert Fairbairn as chairman with effect from April 17 1985. Mr William D. Coats will become joint deputy chairman from that day.

Legal & General: Mr K. H. M. Dixon has been appointed a director, he is also Chairman of Rowntree Mackintosh Plc.

Eso: Mr C. A. Potter has become the treasurer. He succeeds Mr W. G. Todd, who has moved to the United States.

F & C Pacific Investment Trust: Sir Hugh Cortazzi recently British Ambassador to Japan, has now been made a director.

The De La Rue Company: Mr J. D. Salmon, managing director of Crosfield Electronics Division, has been elected to board.

Sketchley: Mr Eric Colwell has become a non-executive director.

Willis Faber & Dumas (UK): Mr William Downey has become an executive director. He was previously a main board director of Jardine, Matheson & Co.

Thompson Clive & Partners: Mr Stephen Black and Mr Robin Meyer have joined the board.

Rayford Supreme Holdings: Mr Colin Davies had been appointed finance director and deputy managing director, from January 1 1985.

Granada Television: Prof. Robert Whelan, vice-chancellor of Liverpool University, has joined the board as a non-executive director.

The Institute of London Underwriters: Mr Bernard Curtis, general manager and secretary, will retire of January 31, 1985. He will be succeeded by Mr Peter Worsfold.

Stephenson Harwood: Mr R. H. Aydon and Mr P. W. U. Corbett have become partners.

Middle East Bank: Mr Majid Al Fattaim succeeds Dr M. Yassar El Bitar as chief executive.

Jonas Woodhead & Sons: Mr J. A. Harrop has been appointed managing director and chief executive in place of Mr E. S. Simpson, who continues as chairman. Mr A. J. Smith has been promoted to deputy managing director.

Vickers Shipbuilding & Engineering: Mr George Bowmer has been made director of engineering sales and marketing.

International Military Services: Mr Keith Walley has been appointed a director and will succeed Sir John Cuckney as chairman next May.

ECONOMIC COMMENTARY

Missed opportunity to spread wealth

By Graham Searjeant

The Government's plans to reform pensions law and taxation are moving in different directions

The mention of occupational pensions is more likely to induce cataplexy in the average policyholder than to set the blood racing. That makes it all the more surprising that pension reform has reached the top of the action tray for at least two government departments. It may, however, explain why a whole variety of economic tests have been applied to pension reform, but applied so randomly, in response to different pressures without any sense of central coordination that they are likely to conflict with each other, solve few problems, and create more. In the process, they will miss an historic opportunity for the Government to further one of its central philosophical aims: to spread individual wealth.

The reform movement gathered pace with the investigations set in train by Mr Norman Fowler, the Social Services Secretary. They stemmed from the complaint, borne of inflation, that most pensionable employees who changed jobs during their careers, leaving a pension frozen in money terms behind them, lost much of the benefit of their pension savings in order to subsidize the dwindling minority who followed the old ideal that spawned the pensions movement and stayed with the same company for most of their working lives.

As the investigation widened, it encompassed the need to promote labour mobility and the opportunity to promote competition for savings and consumer choice. It also toyed with the somewhat theoretical idea that those in control of their own savings would take more risk and invest more in small business than anonymous, risk-averse pension fund institutions, and that a more direct individual link with savings returns would make people more aware of the value of profit and the perils of inflation.

Round at the Treasury, meanwhile, Mr Nigel Lawson, the Chancellor, was applying a quite different set of tests, based on his commendable programme to reform the tax

system by reducing exemptions to tax, so that he can spread the load and cut tax rates within any given overall level of taxation.

He has already been through this exercise on corporation tax. He is now pondering VAT and started on income tax in this year's Budget by abolishing relief on life assurance premiums.

His economic rationale is to achieve fiscal neutrality between different forms of saving (as well as spending), to avoid tax distorting people's behaviour. Like Mr Fowler, however, he is anxious that pension provision should be taken care of as far as possible in the private sector to minimize the share of government revenue and spending in the national income.

Both, however, have ignored the most fundamental drawback of occupational pensions. They induce millions to channel their savings into the one form that denies the spread of wealth and freezes the concentration of wealth in the hands of the few.

Mr Fowler's Pensions Bill is about to be published. Even on its limited brief it is likely to prove a disappointing compromise. Since the Government wishes to encourage private pensions, it will ignore the

Attempt to achieve fiscal neutrality between different forms of savings

fundamental problems inherent in the company pensions system for those who move jobs, regardless of the rate of inflation. It will make little impact on the losses from inflation suffered by so-called "early leavers", who leave a deferred pension, before the end of the century.

Unless actuaries come up with better guidelines than presently seem likely, it will do little to solve mobility problems through pensions transfer. Even the limited proposals to allow employees to opt out of the system in favour of personal portable pensions have been left out of this year's Bill.

As the gathering pensions industry lobby has already made clear, Mr Lawson also faces a morass. He was initially struck by an Inland Revenue

Estimated costs of pension reliefs 1983-84

	£m
Tax relief for employees' contributions	1,100
Tax relief for employees on employers' contributions	1,100
Exemption of pension funds investment income (assuming tax at 30 per cent)	2,250
Exemption of pension funds capital gains	n.a.
Exemption of lump sum	660
Total of these reliefs	5,100
Less: Tax yield from pensions in payment	1,850
Net cost of pension reliefs	3,250

Source: Board of Inland Revenue.

paper in September 1983 which estimated that various tax reliefs on occupational pension schemes cost the Exchequer more than £5 billion gross in 1983-84, a figure that can only have grown since.

As a recent analysis by the Institute of Fiscal Studies (financed by the National Association of Pension Funds) points out, any significant reform will lead to horrible fiscal complexities; not least because the Government itself pays out so many unfunded pensions. The effects on Treasury cash flow are, to say the least, unpredictable. The Chancellor could certainly not net £5 billion and will not try to grab back all the reliefs. He must choose.

The greatest distortion to saving habits is that pension contributions are tax deductible — incidentally costing £2.2 billion of tax on the Revenue estimate. The IFS points out that it would be an unacceptable extension of double taxation to tax both contributions and, as at present, pensions in payment, which bring in £1.9 billion. For pensions include a big element of capital repayment and to tax them at both ends would make them a worse bet, from a tax point of view, than putting savings under the mattress. Separating out the capital repayment would be hopelessly complex.

The three-generation continuum of pension schemes ensures that a switch from taxing pensions to taxing contributions, while best resolving distortions of savings patterns, would cause so much chaos and unfairness between scheme members that existing schemes would have to be closed and new ones opened for future contributions — assuming employers thought it worthwhile.

So Mr Lawson appears to have focused on two other reliefs. The tax-free status of pension funds' investment income, invoiced at a tempting

£2.3 billion without counting capital gains, is already the subject of a concerted pension industry lobby. That stresses the extent to which abolition would tax industry by requiring more contributions, unless most of the benefits of private, contracted-out pensions were to be eliminated. It could also savage the Government's market for gilt-edged securities and, if contributions were raised, lead to extra tax reliefs that could, in the short-term, lead to an immediate fall in Treasury revenues.

The sitting duck among pension reliefs, unprotected by big defensive guns, is the £650 million tax cost of allowing people to take up to 1½ times their salary out of their pension as a tax-free lump sum when they retire. Discouraging this would actually help pension fund cash flow.

Measures may seem logical individually but fail to grasp true need for reform

The pension industry would not mind. The IFS study even described taxing lump sums as "a desirable simplification of pension fund taxation". This, then, is the insiders' favourite for the Chancellor's axe. Yet the lump sum on retirement is the element in pensions that truly serves to spread wealth.

We are faced, therefore, with a series of measures that may seem logical individually, but fail to grasp the true need for pensions reform, or understand the opportunity being missed.

Home ownership, usually the biggest avenue for saving, has long enjoyed a high priority in Government thinking. Its latest manifestation, the sale of council houses, may prove an historic long-term measure to better the unequal distribution of wealth.

After house purchase, occupational pensions are by far the most important form of long-term saving for million (especially if employers' contributions are included). Adding in the notional capital value of pensions on retirement would eventually change the distribution of wealth as radically as the growth of mass home ownership. Yet pension rights are not wealth. You cannot control them, transfer them or bequeath them.

In effect, pension rights suffer 100 per cent inheritance tax, so that the average person whose wealth might consist in equal parts of a house and pension rights, faces a 50 per cent-plus inheritance tax at least as much as the average tax-paying millionaire and his heirs might expect to pay. Pensions deter the long-term spread of wealth.

There is an analogy here with council housing. Both started and continue to be organized with the noblest of motives. Both have grown to help millions lead a decent and far more comfortable life, bringing up a family and in retirement. Yet the growth in average incomes has subtly and gradually turned council housing, and is now changing occupational pensions, into a barrier to further social equality, freedom and family development.

Such thoughts did not figure in the agonized technical debate over personal portable pensions — which suffer the same drawback. Indeed, the need to convert savings into a pension annuity at an arbitrary date can be a severe disadvantage of the purer forms of personal pensions. If people could simply receive the accumulated savings on retirement, they could choose their own moment to buy a pension, or choose instead to preserve their capital to some degree, suffering a penalty of perhaps one quarter to one third of net income for the privilege.

The lump sum that can now be taken on retirement, was encouraged by the general approval of additional voluntary pension contributions that emerged from Mr Fowler's debate. It represents the important exception to these strictures. So, if it is strange for the Government to give so much tax incentive to the form of saving that contributes least to the long-term spread of wealth, it seems even stranger that the Chancellor should be eyeing the lump sum, the part of pension wealth that can be transmitted, as his first target for removing concessions.

Unilever profit rise disappoints market

Third quarter pre-tax profits of Unilever, the Anglo-Dutch soaps to foods giant, rose from £21.5m to £23.3m on a turnover up from £3.3 billion to £3.7 billion.

The figures bring pre-tax profits for the first nine months of this year to £67.4m against £59.6m last time. In the stock market, the shares dropped 15p to £10.60.

Profits from detergents, personal products and frozen foods in the third quarter were little changed. While the results of edible fats and ice cream were down on last year, other foods and drinks continued to show substantial gains.

Animal feeds companies were adversely affected by European Community measures to reduce milk production.

Chemicals and packaging both reported improved profits.

In brief

● LONDON ENTERTAINMENT: Dividend 2.12p (1.92p) for the year to August 31. Pre-tax profit £422.117 (£220.481). Tax £126.778 (£68.034). Extraordinary credit £70,000 (nil). Earnings per share 8.04p (4.15p).

● AMBROSE INVESTMENT TRUST: Interim dividend 3p (same) for six months to September 30. Gross revenue £525,100 (£446,398). Expenses £52,235 (£39,566). Pre-tax profit £472,865 (£406,832). Tax £141,881 (£122,318). Earnings per share 4.6p (3.99p). Net asset value per capital share 302.81p (301.06p at March 31), and 32.87p per income share (31.23p at March 31).

● GEI INTERNATIONAL: Results for six months to September 30. Interim dividend 1.94p (1.76p). Figures in £000. Turnover 32,319 (29,806). Pre-tax profit 1,309 (825). Tax 613 (396). Earnings per share 2p (1.2p). The directors have decided to increase the interim dividend. The balance sheet remains strong with adequate cash resources. Shares 84 up 5.

● LAND SECURITIES: Results for six months to September 30. Interim dividend 2.6p (2.35p adjusted). (Figures in pounds millions). Total income 71.4 (41.8) after ground rents payable 4.6 (4.4). Other property outgoings 1.6 (9.9). Administrative expenses 4.8 (5.1) and interest payable 9.6 (9.9). Tax 20.4 (21.7). Earnings per share 4.9p (4.05p) adjusted. Shares unchanged.

● A. GOLDBERG & SONS: Results for 26 weeks to September 29. Interim dividend 0.59p (1.294p) payable on February 18. Amount of final will be reviewed when the results of the full year are known. (Figures in £000).

Turnover 17,099 (18,120) excluding VAT. Pre-tax loss 762 (profit 353) after interest on bank borrowings 1,308 (1,115) and depreciation 597 (481). Tax credit 267 (change 127). Loss per share 2.9p (profit 1.3p). Shares 59 down 2.

● OXFORD INSTRUMENTS GROUP: Results for 27 weeks to September 23, 1983. Interim dividend 0.4p (nil), payable on April, 1985. (Figures in £000). Turnover 24,622 (18,706). Group profit 2,016 (1,657). Pre-tax profit 2,309 (1,301). Including share of profit in partnership 393 (144) but after associated companies' loss 100 (nil). Tax 967 (690). Earnings per share 2.9p (2.8p). Shares 273p down 3p.

● BELLWAY: Results for the year to July 31. Dividend 4.0p (4.0p) making 7.0p (7.0p). (Figures in £000). Turnover 48,469 (48,603). Gross profit 8,480 (9,168). Pre-tax profit 4,033 (3,659) after administrative expenses 4,503 (4,114) and interest payable 942 (1,395). Tax 1,447 (862). Minority interest 9 (6). Earnings per share 14.9p (17.8p). Shares 129 down 9p.

● PACIFIC SALES ORGANIZATION: The chairman Mr Leo Kalish, told the annual meeting that October was a record month for both sales and profits in the 25-year history of the company. He said he was now confident that the forecast made at the time of flotation of £90,000 profit before tax for the year to June 30 1985 will be exceeded.

● DOUBLE EAGLE: The acquisition of Chessminster by the Canadian company, Double Eagle Technology, has been completed. Former Chessminster shareholders now own 60.6 per cent of the enlarged share capital of Double Eagle Technology. The remaining formalities are now being finalized in Vancouver. The board of Chessminster has confirmed that there is no reason to alter the previous profits forecast of not less than £322,000 before taxation for the year to March 31, 1985.

● GRABBY DYNAMICS: The leading defence contractor in the Cambridge Electronic Industries group, has won a contract for initial production worth more than £14m to supply the Ministry of Defence with the chemical agent monitor Cam.

● SCOTTISH NATIONAL TRUST: Final 2.95p, making 4.25p total (3.90p) for the year to Sept. 30. (Figures in £000). Gross revenue 6,868 (5,908). Tax 1,572 (1,453). ESP 4.74p (4.31p).

● MINISTER ASSETS: The scheme of arrangement and reconstruction of Minister Assets has now been completed. Since details of the petroleum interest were sent to shareholders of Minister Assets on Sept. 14, the report by Energy Resource Consultants has been updated and, in particular, contains a revised estimate of the group's technical petroleum reserves.

● CH INDUSTRIALS and Petrofina (UK) formed Buckingham Coatings to be equally owned. It will manufacture a range of coatings and paints for the marketing divisions of both partners in a new factory under construction. Production is expected to start by early 1986.

Another record year for Burton


Pre-tax profit £56.4m

- ★ Pre-tax profit up by 44% to £56.4m.
- ★ Sales up by £117m to £416m with market share over 5%.
- ★ Continued progress in meeting the lifestyle needs of major segments of the clothing market.
- ★ Dividend up from 5.0p to 6.5p.
- ★ 166 new trading outlets.
- ★ Employment up by 2000.
- ★ £67m capital investment to sustain growth in market share.
- ★ Growth record maintained by creative and imaginative management.
- ★ Success rewards 10,500 employees at all levels in performance related incentives of £6.8m.
- ★ Sales value of British goods up by £80m.
- ★ New initiative to encourage British fashion industry and employment.

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A SPECIAL REPORT

Finland

In the first visit by a Finnish head of state for 15 years, President Mauno Koivisto arrived in Britain yesterday. This Special Report examines his country's highly successful brand of neutrality, its role in East-West relations, and an economy whose growth rate exceeds even that of Japan.

Richard Owen reports from Helsinki.



President Koivisto's visit to London shows that the British still have a special place in Finland's view of the world, one Finnish diplomat remarked recently. "We may be perched on the edge of the Soviet Union, but we also have vital links with the West."

Finland's highly successful brand of neutrality is symbolized by its policy of buying weapons for Finnish defence: one-third comes from Russia, one-third from neutral countries or Finland's own arms industries, and one-third from the West. Its trading policy reflects a similar balancing act.

Regrettably, Britain is no longer Finland's main trading partner, as it was before the Second World War. Exports to Britain now only account for some ten per cent of Finland's foreign trade, and Britain has slipped badly to fourth place in the league of Finnish trading partners, after the Soviet Union, Sweden and West Germany.

But Britain's special place in Finnish historical memories is more than a myth, and Mr Koivisto's four-day visit - his first to Britain since becoming president in January 1982 - should give a boost to bi-lateral trade, provided British and Finnish businessmen are ready to capitalize on the political impetus provided by the trip.

However, it is still the Soviet Union which preoccupies Finnish foreign policy makers most. President Koivisto has made no fewer than seven trips to Moscow since he was elected, the last in April this year. The Finnish Prime Minister, Kalevi Sorsa, was in Moscow in September, followed closely by Paavo Vayrynen, the Finnish Foreign Minister, in October. For that matter Kremlin leaders call in on Helsinki from time to time with the same purpose: to

show that just as the Kremlin had nothing to fear from the change of leadership in Helsinki three years ago, Finland has nothing to fear from manoeuvrings in Moscow.

Mr Grigory Romanov, a powerful contender for the Soviet leadership at 62, and well known in Finland for his long years as party boss in nearby Leningrad, appeared in Helsinki in October to attend celebrations marking the fortieth anniversary of the Armistice signing.

The view in Helsinki is that when most of the East is at daggers drawn with most of the West, Soviet-Finnish relations provide the Russians with a model example of good neighbourliness, continuity and mutual reassurance. Or as Mr Vayrynen put it to *The Times*: "President Koivisto has continued the Kekkonen line in a very reliable way."

Perhaps knowing that the Russians had preferred other candidates in the 1982 Presidential elections, Mr Koivisto made a point of getting to know Mr Andropov (tactfully glossing over Andropov's wartime service against Finland in Karelia), and also became the first foreign leader to meet Mr Chernomir after Andropov's death in February this year.

The 1948 Soviet-Finnish treaty of friendship and cooperation has been extended to the year 2003, and on the eve of the Chernomir-Koivisto talks in April, Moscow marked the 36th anniversary of the treaty by telling Helsinki that fruitful cooperation was developing dynamically on the basis of mutual confidence and sincere friendship.

During Mr Sorsa's visit to Moscow in September a new five-year trade agreement worth over 30 billion dollars was signed. As in previous agreements, Soviet raw materials are to be exchanged for Finnish consumer and capital goods. But this time exports of Soviet



machinery to Finland are to double in value to one and a half billion dollars.

Finland's imports of Soviet crude oil are set at 9 million tonnes, a rise of one million tonnes, quite apart from Soviet oil bought for re-export by the Finns.

Shipping, a mainstay of Finnish foreign trade, will account for three billion dollars worth of exports, and supplies of Finnish electronic goods are to increase ten times. The healthy state of trade is also symbolised by a huge contract worth 160 million dollars for the construction of a pulp and paper plant at Vyyburg situated in former Finnish territory, 60 kilometres from the present border.

The Finnish company Finn-Stroi will also build a new residential area for Soviet inhabitants, with completion of the total project due in 1988. Finn-Stroi's previous projects include a one billion dollar mining complex at Kostomuksho.

There are occasional ripples on the surface of this apparently exemplary relationship. Many Finns were irritated by Moscow's vocal support for the minority Stalinist wing of the Finnish Communist Party during the crucial party conference last May, although in the end Moscow's interference was counter-productive, since the moderate Euro-Communist wing of the party won a famous victory and it fell to Mr Romanov in October to try and stop the Communist Party falling apart altogether by calling for unity and internal discipline.

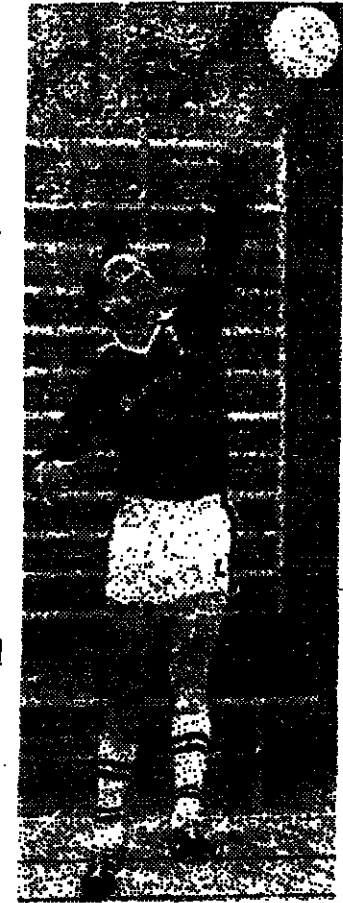
Both Helsinki and Moscow are also concerned at occasional attempts to smuggle religious literature into the Soviet Union. In one case earlier this year, a plot to smuggle bibles across the border was foiled by the Finns. Such incidents give rise to the charge that Helsinki goes to excessive lengths to appease the Kremlin in order to preserve Finnish independence and a western way of life.

The prospects for East-West relations are not so promising as many in the West would be very happy to believe. In the West any sign is interpreted as a sign that we are now going to have new discussions of crucial importance about arms reduction and things like that . . .

President Koivisto

A full interview on page 23

On and off duty: President Koivisto the statesman and right, the sportsman, playing volleyball, his favourite recreation.



The Finns firmly reject this, pointing out that they know best how to live with the Russians, that both sides learned hard lessons in the Winter War and the Continuation War, and that Finland has since increased its independence from Russia rather than the reverse. On the other hand the Soviet Finnish border agreement of 1960 is usually interpreted by Russians to mean that Finland immediately hands back would-be defectors to the Russians, a point reinforced when an Estonian official defected to Sweden rather than Finland earlier this year.

The Finns themselves deny that they hand back escaping Russians, but Amnesty International maintains that defectors are sent back before they have a chance to apply for political asylum.

Because of its delicate political position, Finland is hypersensitive to any strain in East-West relations, including present tensions over the deployment of new nuclear weapons in West Europe and the breakdown of arms talks in Geneva.

Although Finnish leaders said at first that cruise missiles were a political rather than military problem, and posed no threat to Finnish security, the Russians have made it crystal clear that they expect Finland to be able to intercept cruise missiles if they are aimed at the Soviet Union via Finnish territory.

This was underlined by the Czech Bohuslav Chnoupek, the Czech

foreign minister, when he remarked in Helsinki in October that Nato missiles in Europe were a threat to both communist and non-communist nations, an apparent reference to the fact that cruise could fly through Finnish or Swedish airspace on its way to Soviet targets.

In an interview with *The Times*, Mr Vayrynen suggested that while cruise was not a danger to Finland as long as it was land-based, it could become one if deployed in aircraft or submarines, or if a second generation of cruise missiles was developed.

The Finnish defence forces have begun working on anti-cruise air defences, but as Mr Vayrynen puts it, the military technology is complicated and "our possibilities are limited".

The Russians insist that for Helsinki to "underestimate the dangers" of cruise could lead to "serious political miscalculation". But for the Finns the problem is how to keep defences firmly in Finnish hands in an era of increasingly sophisticated military hardware. Although the defence forces are well equipped and can raise 700,000 troops at short notice, their resources are few.

The answer may lie in a Nordic defence policy. The fact that Denmark and Norway

PARTY POLITICS

An end to the old alliances

Is Mauno Koivisto finally emerging from the long shadow cast by Urho Kekkonen? For both Finns and foreigners, President Kekkonen personified the stability of post-war Finnish politics during his 26 years in power. President Koivisto, by contrast, tended initially to keep aloof from domestic politics following his election in January 1982.

A former Social Democrat, Mr Koivisto was elected by a wide cross section of Finns in a poll which cut across party boundaries. Mr Koivisto, moreover, has deliberately stressed the parliamentary rather than presidential aspects of Finland's constitution.

On the whole it is Mr Kalevi Sorsa, the Social Democratic Prime Minister, who tends to dominate Finnish politics, not least because the slow collapse of the Communist Party - the most remarkable turn of events in recent years - has focused

attention on the fortunes of the left.

Mr Sorsa's coalition contains the Social Democrats, the Centre Party, the Rural Party and the Swedish People's Party - but not the Communists, who walked out of the government after a showdown over the budget at the end of 1982.

Mr Sorsa has made it clear that as far as he is concerned the old days of social-democratic-communist alliances are over; and the communists' disastrous performance in the October local elections virtually disqualifies them from government office.

Mr Sorsa's prominence is hardly surprising given that he is now serving his third term as prime minister, a post he first held in 1972 (he has also been Finnish foreign minister). President Koivisto may take more of the initiative if he wins a second term as expected, just as

Continued on Page 22

Helsinki in 1975, and was encouraged by the opening of the Stockholm conference on disarmament and confidence building. But ten years on, very few of the signatories of the Helsinki agreements are still in power.

More to the point, many Nato leaders feel there is nothing much to celebrate, since the Russians have repeatedly violated the Helsinki accords, and the era of détente is well and truly buried.

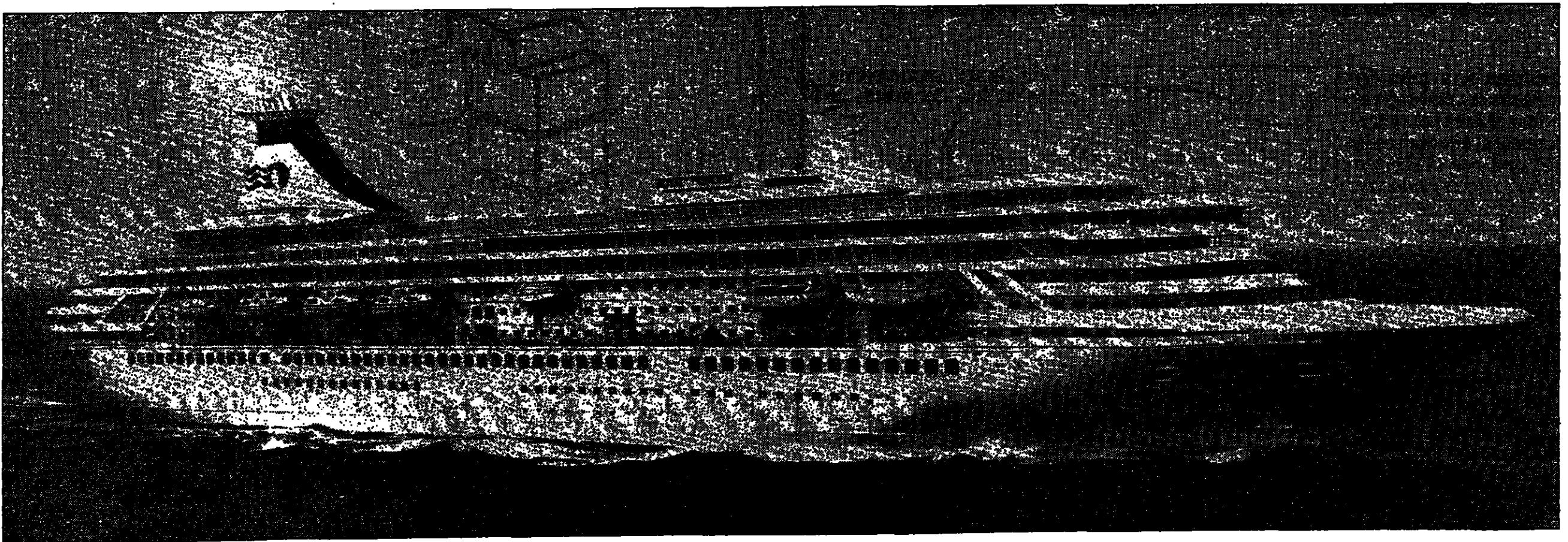
Finland has asked the Nato countries to indicate their attitudes to a 1985 summit gathering in Helsinki by the end of this month, and the issue will no doubt be raised during Mr Koivisto's talks with Mrs Thatcher.

The Russians and East Europeans are certainly keen; and Mr Romanov gave the summit idea his backing in Helsinki in October. So did Herr Erich Honecker, the East German leader, who visited Helsinki shortly after Mr Romanov.

But even before next August, could Helsinki serve as a neutral meeting place for Mr Chernomir and President Reagan? The Finns are characteristically cautious about the prospects.

As Mr Vayrynen remarked to *The Times*: "We are always ready to host any meeting likely to contribute to peace, but we can only offer our services if it seems realistic to do so."

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FINLAND

POLITICS

Old alliances are over

Continued from page 21

Kekkonen came to the fore in 1963. But Mr Sorsa has clocked up more than 2,500 days in the prime minister's chair and is widely known internationally.

The combined strength of the left-wing parties fell in October to below 40 per cent for the first time since the war, with the Social Democrats losing ground as well as the SKDL, the communist front organisation. For opposition politicians such as Ilka Suominen, leader of the conservative National Coalition party, it is self-evident that Finland's economic and social problems derive from policies pursued by a series of centre-left governments, with only a few interludes of bourgeois or non-socialist administrations to redress the balance.

The welfare state and government-directed policies pursued by the left are breaking down, Suominen argues, together with the social consensus on which they are based.

Mr Sorsa is able to point - with justification - to the fact that Finland, once the poor cousin of the Scandinavian countries, is prosperous. But the prime minister agreed in an interview with *The Times* that



Mr Kalevi Sorsa, the Prime Minister of Finland: aware of social change.

the left had dominated Finnish politics as if by natural right, and that socialism must now be re-defined to take account of social change, including the disappearance of entire classes such as small farmers and the urban poor.

Disillusionment with the consensus politics of centre-left governments in Finland is perhaps most clearly reflected in the remarkable rise of the protest vote. In the parliamentary elections of May last year the Social Democrats won 57 seats, or 26.7 per cent of the vote, and the Centre Party 38

seats, or 17.6 per cent. The Conservatives took 44 seats, or 22.1 per cent of the vote, but were not able to pose a convincing challenge to the centre-left coalition.

Instead maverick Finns gave their support to the Finnish Rural Party led by Mr Pekka Vennamo, which won a remarkable 17 seats and 9.7 per cent of the vote. The Rural Party - or "Vennamp" as it is often called - has been traditionally regarded as the voice of anti-establishment opinion on the margins of Finnish politics, and some would even place it on the lunatic fringe.

The Social Democrats won 24.8 per cent in the local elections, the Conservatives 23 per cent and the Centre Party 20.2 per cent. But the Greens came from nowhere to win almost three per cent, with a much higher proportion in Helsinki itself.

But it is the decline of the Finnish Communist Party which most preoccupies Finnish political observers, and which could alter the shape of Finnish politics altogether.

The Communist Party vote dropped in the local elections to just over 14 per cent, and even that vote was split since some communist factions put up their own lists - an unprecedented move towards open disunity.

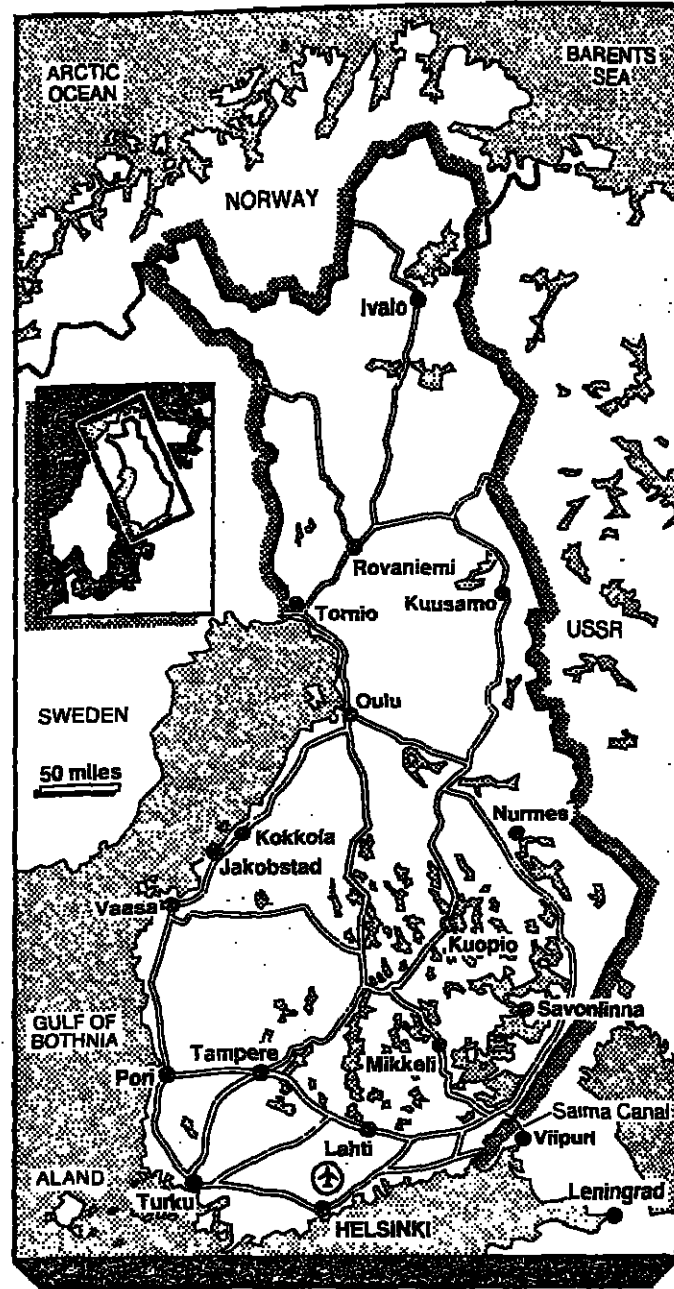
A break-up seems inevitable now that the dominant moderate or Eurocommunist faction has warned the minority of hardline Stalinists that they will be expelled if they persist in toeing the Kremlin line.

The original strength of Finnish communism stemmed less from admiration for neighbouring Russia than from memories of ruthless Finnish capitalism in the 1920s and 1930s, and of treatment of the Reds by the Whites in the Finnish civil war.

But these wellsprings of communist sentiment are running dry, and fratricidal strife between Stalinists and moderates over the past decade has brought the demise of the SKDL close.

The contentious party congress last May saw the defeat of the Stalinists at the hands of the Eurocommunists, who installed 51-year-old Arvo Aalto as party chairman, even though his rival, Mr Jouko Kajaranta, had the personal support of Mr Chernenko.

The Soviet press merely referred to "difficulties" at the May congress, but in fact the



Kremlin was furious, not least because *Pravda* had specifically warned the Finnish communists not to elect someone as lukewarm as Mr Aalto is about hardline Marxism-Leninism and loyalty to Moscow.

So far, at least, it looks as if the intervention in October by Mr Gregory Romanov, a hardline Soviet Politburo member, has failed to stop the split and if anything made it worse. Mr Romanov supported a call by the Stalinist wing of the Finnish party for an extraordinary congress to reverse the Eurocommunist victory, but there seems to be little chance of this coming about.

For the time being at any rate the Kremlin is forced to watch from the sidelines, despite Mr Romanov's warning in Helsinki that "any further weakening of the Finnish Communist Party - and above all its disintegration - would have far reaching

consequences for the internal political situation in Finland. It would make it easier for right wing circles to upset the common stand of those who support the foreign policy line of President Koivisto aimed at friendship and co-operation with the Soviet Union.

In practice, however, as Moscow knows full well, continuation of the Koivisto line does not depend on the fortunes of the communists in Finland, and will occur even if the communists are reduced to a marginal force, as is rapidly becoming the case.

The more interesting political question is whether in future votes lost to the SKDL will go to Mr Sorsa's Social Democrats, the centre party, Vennamo or the Greens and other rising protest groups.

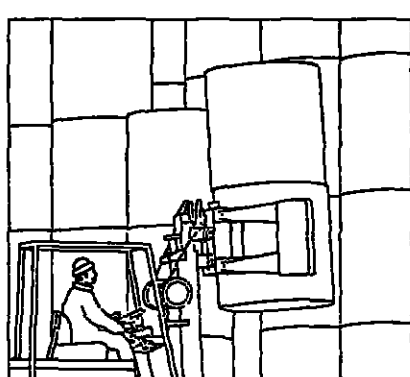
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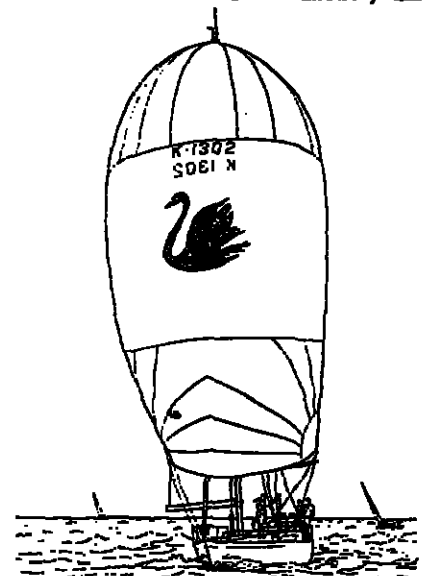
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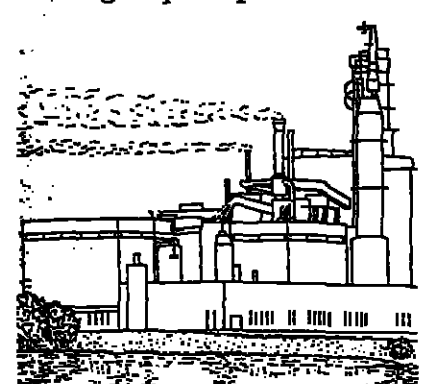
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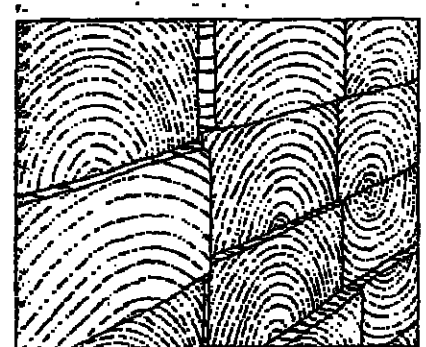
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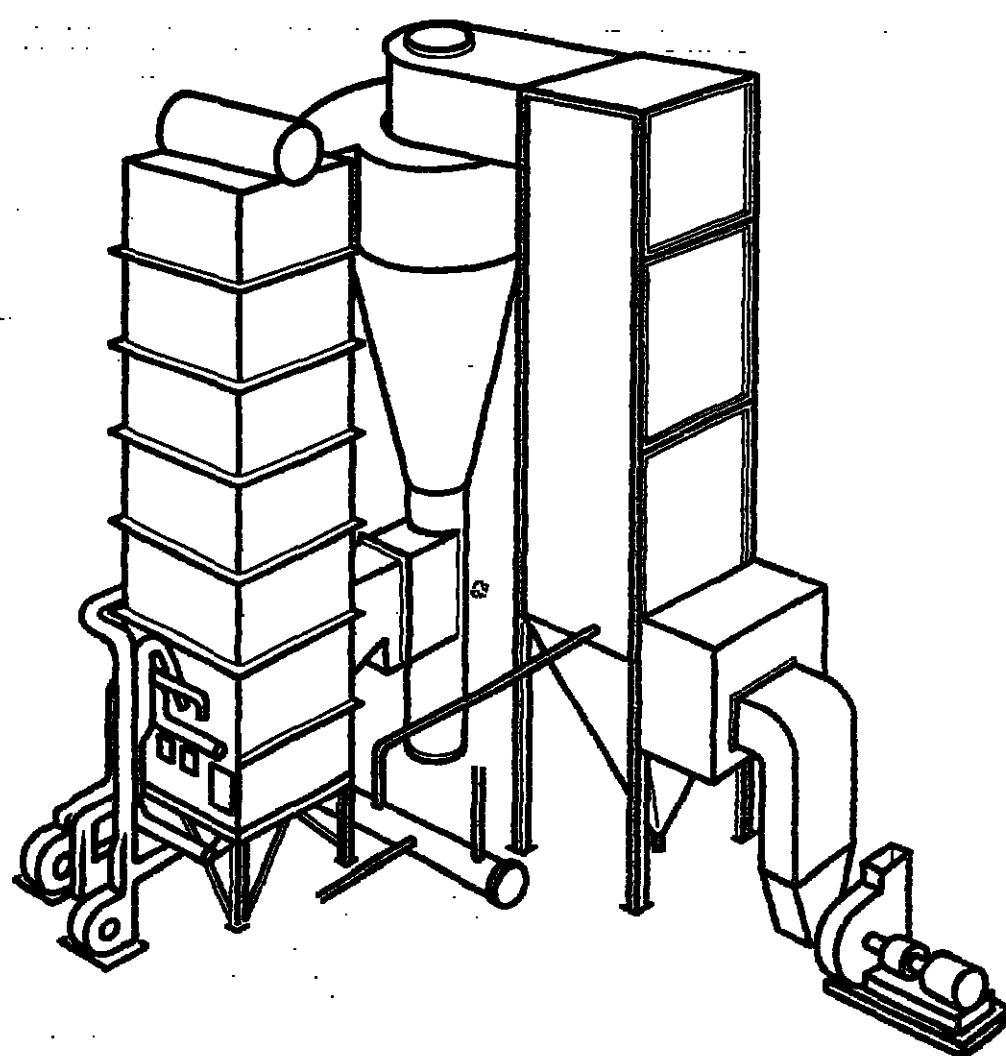


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Geoffrey Smith interviews President Mauno Koivisto of Finland

A long tradition of friendly relations



Dr Mauno Koivisto succeeded the legendary **Urho Kekkonen** as President of Finland in January 1982. A Social Democrat, who had previously served as Prime Minister, Finance Minister and Governor of the Bank of Finland, he has for some years been the most popular figure in Finnish public life. As a young man he worked in the docks to finance his university studies, and during the Continuation War with Russia he was a private soldier in a commando unit behind Soviet lines. Geoffrey Smith interviewed him in Helsinki before he left on his official visit to Britain.

Q: Mr President, this will be the first time you have been in Britain since you became President. Do you have a particular purpose in view? Are there any particular problems in bilateral relations between Britain and Finland that need to be resolved?

A: There are no big unsolved problems in our relations, they are traditionally good. Of course, there are always open questions of trade, about how to increase it, and there are many other areas of cooperation where something has to be done. But I suppose that the most important part of my visit will be the discussion of political questions and the exchange of views especially in the East-West context.

Over the years I know you in Helsinki have watched the development of East-West relations with particular care. How do you see the prospects?

They are not so promising as many in the West would be very happy to believe. In the West any sign is interpreted as a sign that now we are going to have new discussions of crucial importance, about armament reduction and things like that. A recent *Pravda* or *Izvestia* said that they have not given up the demand that the Euromissiles must be withdrawn before any talks can be held. There are two different things: one whether the discussions will be opened, and another whether they will lead to some results.

Evidently there is more optimism that the discussions might be opened soon but much less as to whether they will lead to some results and agreements. And as the Russians are less optimistic about the results, they are evidently very reluc-

tant to come to the negotiating table if it just means endless discussions.

Am I interpreting you correctly that the prospects are quite good for opening discussions again on armaments between East and West but not for having an effective agreement?

Well, they are two different things. But I am not especially optimistic about a resumption of discussions.

Do you think there is any move that Finland can make to encourage a better atmosphere between East and West? You took the initiative over the Helsinki Security Conference in order to try to improve relations. Do you see any further steps that Finland can take to improve East-West relations?

Before I was elected President I was Prime Minister. I served in four different governments and that might be one explanation why I have wanted to see our system in the first place as a parliamentary system. Before the elections I said in all my speeches that I was going to develop those traits in our constitution that have something to do with the parliamentary system, towards a more consequent parliamentary system. I have been able to live with that pledge without any difficulties.

Well, I must be modest and say that we have had no such problems that have required an intervention by the President. It has not been too difficult to form a majority government. There have been no special

Finland's relationship with the Soviet Union. How do you see that relationship today?

We have no difficult open questions in our relations. We were able to celebrate the 40 years of peace between our two countries in a relaxed atmosphere. Both sides were pointing out that our relations have become better and better and that our mutual trust is on a high level. It has been a difficult process to reach the prevailing situation. But at the present time our relations are unchanged or, one could say, very much relaxed.

The impression that exists in Britain is that Finland has had over the years to pay particular attention to the wishes of the Soviet Union in international

group of reference. We have regular consultations and it is a group where we belong very naturally.

If again it is a case where the big powers are involved, that is where we usually are fairly careful. There was a lot of discussion during last year when in the United Nations we deplored the United States' invasion of Grenada. There were people saying that we were not following a steady line as quite soon thereafter there was, once again, a decision taken on Afghanistan. We say that the two cases are not identical but we are very reluctant to go more in detail because that would mean getting involved unnecessarily in a Big Power conflict.

Yes, but many people would be a little surprised that you criticised the United States over Grenada but not equally the Soviet Union over Afghanistan. We say that they were not identical cases.

Mr Romanov criticized the divisions within the Communist Party in Finland and he has been interpreted by a number of people here as linking that criticism to relations between the Soviet Union and Finland. Do you feel that it is consistent with the relationship that you have been describing, between the Soviet Union and Finland, for a leading Soviet figure to come to Helsinki and make that kind of criticism about one of Finland's political parties?

The relations between two communist parties, that is a special case. The discussion between the Finnish Communist Party and the Soviet Communist Party has been very frank, even in newspapers and in published texts. And it is quite evident that the Soviet Communist Party has shown much more sympathy for the minority than for the majority. But they are always very careful to say that they are not interfering, they just say what they think.

Looking at Finland from Britain, one of the most remarkable features today is that you have managed to combine low inflation with relatively low unemployment. How did you do this?

I am as surprised as you are. This is really a very rare occasion. Usually we, as other governments, have to choose between inflation or stagnation. Now, our economic activity has been on a high level with decreasing inflation. It is really something very unusual that is happening.



Dr Koivisto, seen here with the Soviet Prime Minister, Mr Nikolai Tikhonov (left), believes that the Russians are reluctant to come to the table "if it just means endless discussions"

Next year we are going to celebrate the tenth anniversary. We didn't take the initiative but in a situation that seemed not very promising arose the idea of doing something, and the idea was adopted in Madrid. We have had a positive reaction from all sides to celebrate the event in a proper manner.

And there is evidently political interest beyond just celebrating. Evidently, it will take place on a political level.

Mr President, you have been in office now for more than two years. You succeeded a man who held the office for more than quarter of a century. How do you see your role as President?

problems facing the government from abroad, and no special domestic problems.

President Kekkonen was a very dominant President. Does this mean that you have not intervened in policy at all, you have simply appointed the government which would determine the policy?

He was a different kind of person and the time was different. I have not had to face such crises as he had to face.

The crises that Finland has faced in the course of the post-war years that have attracted most attention outside Finland have been in connection with

affairs in general. Now is that interpretation correct? And how may Finland's interpretation of this role have changed over the years?

Of course it is very important to us to be aware what the Soviet Union is thinking about our policies. But then it is up to us to take into consideration what kind of situation it is and to what extent it is our business. And in many cases, of course, we listen very carefully to what is said. But let's take the United Nations. If the matter has nothing to do with East-West tension, then in most cases I suppose we are voting with the Nordic countries. That is our



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FINLAND

ECONOMIC MIRACLE

Growth rate: even faster than Japan



Finnish optimism about the economy has been strengthened this autumn by the news that the country is showing the fastest growth rate among members of the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD), even surpassing that of Japan.

Projections show that Finland's real gnp growth is very close to 5 per cent this year. Most industries are running to capacity, exports to market economy countries have risen 15 per cent and unemployment is 4.8 per cent.

Even inflation, which has persistently remained well above the OECD average, has eased somewhat. The government bases next year's budget on six per cent inflation, and latest monthly figures show that inflation has fallen during the last 12 months to under seven per cent. It is now generally agreed that the present favourable upward cycle will continue next year more strongly than originally projected. This means another year of very high growth for Finland.

The country has also enjoyed an unusually calm period in industrial relations. The national consensus, which has this far applied to foreign policy, has spread to other areas as well. This helped considerably when this year's collective wages and prices agreement was signed in the spring.

The main trade unions joined the government and the employers in a two-year centralized agreement, which was very moderate, with wage increases of under four per cent.

The latest full-scale OECD report on Finland, published in January, pointed out that the country had experienced a marked deceleration in growth following two years (1979 and 1980) during which output rose faster than in any other OECD country. Developments have on balance remained favourable in relative terms, particularly in terms of other European countries, the report said.

The year 1982 was more buoyant than expected, and real gnp growth amounted to 2.5 per cent, but inflation remained higher than the OECD average and especially than that of Finland's major competitors. Three per cent growth last year, and even more this year, is clearly higher than that in most other European countries. This led even the usually reticent Mr



Fish fingers: one woman's contribution to Finland's burgeoning economy.

Rolf Kullberg, Governor of the Bank of Finland, to begin his annual statement by stating that "economic developments in Finland in 1983 remained favourable by international standards, with total output again growing more rapidly than in the OECD countries on average".

This was mainly attributable to economic policies bolstering domestic demand, which, among other things, resulted in a modest but steady increase throughout the recession.

The country has taken recession seriously and trimmed its industries to a highly competitive shape. This first enabled it to avoid the worst effects of the last recession, and

meeting the government's budget target, which is six per cent annual inflation. Last year it was 8.5 per cent, which is well above the OECD average of 5 per cent.

Prospects for Finnish exports are reasonable as far as the West is concerned. However, the barrier trade with the Soviet Union, which accounts for roughly one quarter of Finland's foreign trade, has stagnated because Finland has developed a huge surplus, which is difficult to balance because Finns do not find enough to buy from the Soviet Union.

Of individual industries, chemicals did well last year with an increase of 20 per cent in export volume. Timber was up

political instability. Coalition governments came and went, on average one a year.

Now the Communists have lost much of their influence, their share of the vote is down to under 14 per cent, while the Social Democrats are the biggest party, with some 37 per cent. Thus they do not have to show their radicalism and have been the driving force behind the centralized collective agreements, which are the backbone of the stability and steady growth. Ironically, this has made the country less socialist, and the socialist parties, which once had a majority in the parliament, are now down to just over 40 per cent of the seats.

According to a combined projection done by the leading economic research institutes of the five Nordic countries, Finland's growth rate will remain faster than that of the other four.

According to the institutes, Finland's average growth rate will be 3 per cent during the years 1983-87. The figure for Sweden and Denmark is 2 per cent and for Norway 1.5 per cent.

Industrial production will increase by 3.5 per cent in Finland, 2.7 in Denmark, 2.5 in Sweden and not at all in Norway. Inflation will be 7.5 in Finland and Norway, 8.2 in Sweden and 5.7 in Denmark. Unemployment per thousand persons will be 134 in Finland, 220 in Sweden, 85 in Norway and 379 in Denmark, the report predicts.

The report also shows that Finland will achieve this with far less public aid to industries than the others.

This expression of confidence in the Finnish economy has already had clearly visible results. In the short term, the Finnmark was revalued by roughly one per cent after the signing of moderate wages and prices agreement.

In the longer term, Finnish firms have started a strong internationalization drive. Overseas direct investment in terms of equity capital rose almost fourfold from 1979 to 1983, from Finnmark 440 million to Finnmark 1,469 million in 1983. This increase has been especially apparent in Sweden, where Finnish companies have bought dozens of local factories.

Olli Kivinen

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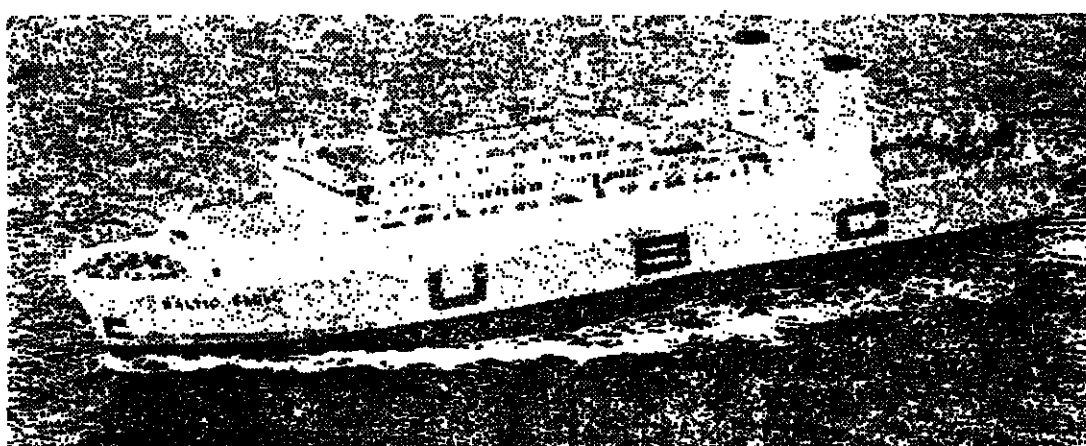
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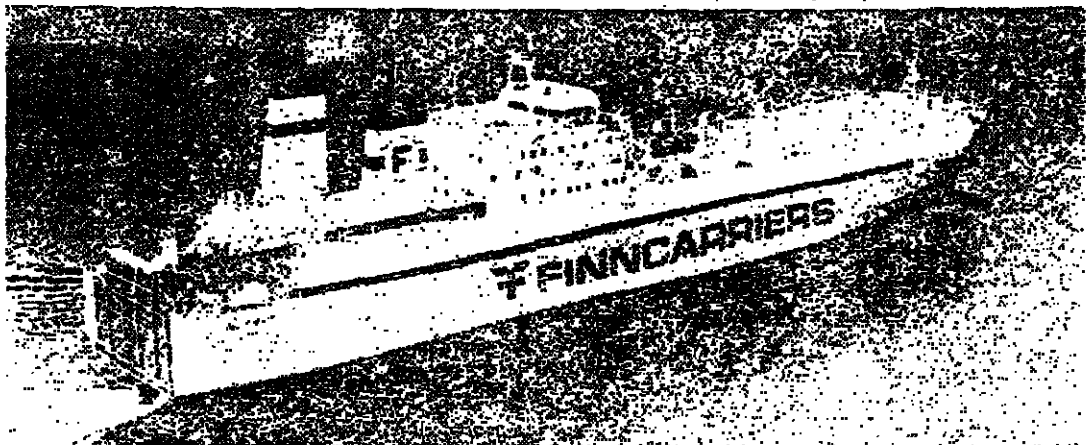
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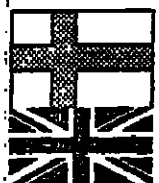
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THE WEALTH OF THE FORESTS... AND THE SEA

Getting paper to The Times



The tree remains and will continue to be the mainstay of the Finnish economy. The country's rapidly growing expertise in electronics and its older but highly regarded ability to make things like ships seems certain not to overtake in importance the Finns' traditional occupation of converting their vast forests into valuable exports.

Nearly 36 per cent of Finland's exports is made up of forest products, ranging from basic sawn timber to high quality, wood-free coated papers. More than 80 per cent of total forest output - and 90 per cent of paper - is sold abroad.

Many British newspapers, including *The Times*, are printed on Finnish newsprint. By comparison, most other industries' exports are small. Finland's chemical industry exported 10.5 per cent of its output last year, and the textile and clothing industry 7.7 per cent. Only the metal industries, when considered together, just beat the forest sector.

Other statistics about the forest industry are also impressive. Finland last year sold prefabricated wooden houses worth \$120m to foreign customers, pulp worth \$636m and paper and board worth \$2,891m. The industry's total exports were valued at \$4,679m.

Paper and board consumption in particular can be directly related to a country's gross national product. When gnp goes up, so does the demand for packaging boards, newsprint, magazine paper, computer papers and so on.

The recession of recent years has, therefore, struck at the very heart of Finland's economy and dealt serious blows to the forest industry. In 1983, after two

years of retrenchment, there emerged signs of a return to more healthy trading conditions, although nobody in Finland is euphoric about immediate prospects.

Better times started in the second half of last year; consequently the annual export volume rose by 6.2 per cent and 11.3 per cent by value, although capacity use remained on average below a satisfactory level. This year, the export "mini boom" is expected to continue at the same pace but

such activity would only bring the industry's volume sales back to 1980 levels.

According to the Central Association of Finnish Forest Industries, growth in the mechanical sector of the forest industry was hampered by insufficient supplies of pine and birch logwood (more of the available supply being diverted

to the pulp and paper mills) and while production of sawn goods rose by 6.5 per cent, the operating rate of the sawmills was under 70 per cent.

In the chemical pulp sector, companies in Finncell, the centralised selling operation, exported 1.57 tonnes, an increase of 9 per cent on the previous year. Capacity utilis-

ation was up from the 1982 level of 72 per cent to 81 per cent and the producers are taking heart from the predicted 5 per cent increase in world pulp demand this year.

The Finns have been particularly disturbed by the impact of the successive currency devaluations by the Swedes - their main European competitors -

and while Finland has been forced to follow its neighbour's example, the extent of the Finnmark devaluation may prove to be inadequate.

In the paper markets, Finland's exports began expanding slowly last autumn and there is hope that things will continue to improve this year.

The 1983 total of more than 4m tons of paper products delivered by Finnish mills was 8 per cent higher than in 1982, but the price levels did little to provoke excitement.

Paper sales earned Finnish companies Fmk 10,500m, a rise over the previous year of 9 per cent. This, says the industry, is "a result that cannot be considered altogether satisfactory, viewed against the rise in tonnage. It did not even approximately match the rate of inflation."

Newsprint, one of the most sensitive paper grades, is providing most producers with their lowest margins. While the voracious appetite for newspapers continues in Europe - and proprietors are paying what they consider to be very high prices - the main suppliers like the Finns complain that excessive capacity has held down prices and weakened the market.

Finland, like Sweden (the two countries sell almost all of their newsprint in Europe) has been pulling out all the stops in a bid to increase the value of newsprint at a time of only slowly rising prices.

High technology (and highly expensive) developments like thermo-mechanical pulp and the arrival of much lighter grades of newsprint have both helped to ease out the supplies of the precious and costly fibre supply.



Free passage. Logs on their long journey down one of Finland's great rivers en route for pulp or saw mill. Forest products form 36 per cent of Finland's exports

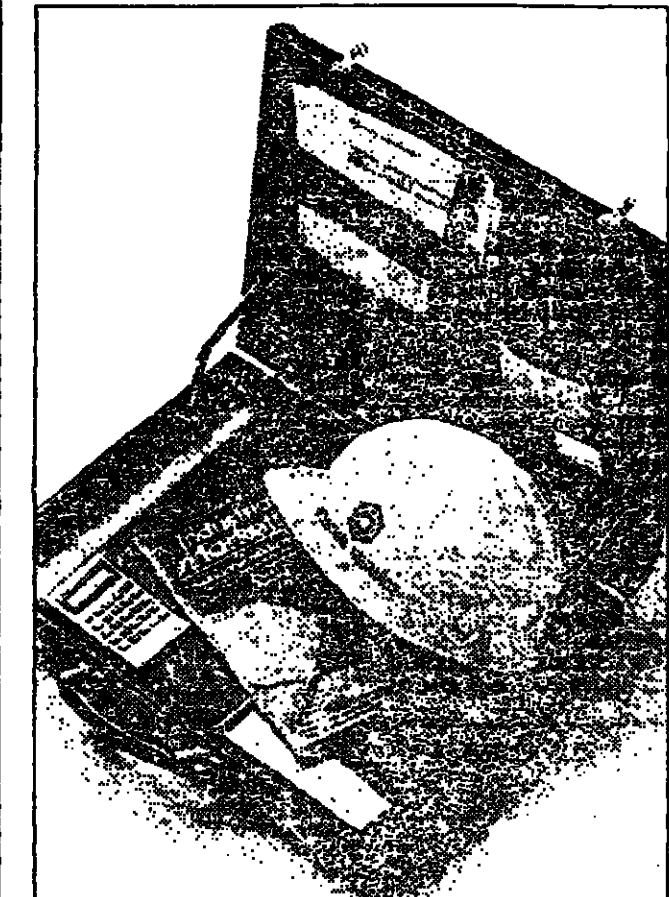
The Finns have also moved away from home in the hope of making more money from foreign-based operations. The most notable venture so far is in the UK, where United Paper Mills is investing £135m on a newsprint plant in North Wales.

This, and a £40m newsprint investment at Ellesmere Port on Merseyside by Consolidated Bathurst of Canada, will increase total UK newsprint capacity to about 500,000 tonnes, about a third of current domestic demand.

On the broader paper front, the major consolation for the Finnish producers has been the growing strength of the United States market, where increases in demand help to mop up huge amounts of paper that would otherwise find their way to European consumers.

As a result, deliveries by Finnapp (the paper equivalent of Finncell) doubled compared with 1982 and the US became the fourth largest export market for Finland.

Edward Townsend



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Shipbuilding: a steady flow of Soviet orders

Specialization has been the magic formula which has enabled Finland's shipbuilding industry to keep its head above water when most European yards have sunk into ever growing difficulties.

The industry is now doing well, but warning signs are there, because many specialists claim that the industry has too much capacity and that it cannot expect to keep 18,000 workforce without new orders.

The industry's order book in June was for 60 ships, totalling 600,000 grt. This was down from last year's record of 86 ships (670,000 grt), but the picture has improved somewhat during the autumn with fresh orders from the Soviet Union.

Shipbuilding is the clearest example of the important role played by Soviet trade. During periods of international tension in particular, Finland's close and carefully guarded trade relations with the Soviet Union rise many eyebrows in the West, but Finns have come to regard the 25 per cent portion of their trade done with the Soviet Union as a clear benefit.

Soviet trade is conducted on barter and long-term basis. Framework trade agreements are negotiated for five years at a time, which means, for example, that the Finnish shipbuilding industry can plan ahead in a way that is impossible in normal markets. Even longer term plans are discussed - and this enables Finns to see in advance what the Soviet Union is aiming at in, say, a decade from now. Finnish yards can therefore design products before others even know that the Russians contemplate ordering them.

This steady flow of Soviet orders plays an important role in keeping the yards competitive in Western markets, because new investments can be decided upon knowing that part of the capacity is already all but sold to the Soviet Union. A third important element contributing to today's relatively favourable situation is research. Finnish yards employ hundreds of graduate engineers to produce a steady flow of new designs. Wärtsilä, the biggest shipbuilding enterprise, has



The most luxurious cruise ship ever built. The Royal Princess in Helsinki last month when it was handed over to its owners, P&O. It will be named by the Princess of Wales tomorrow.

delivered 51 different types of ship during the last ten years. Today's catchword is total design concept, which means that a company like Wärtsilä can take care of everything involved in designing and building a modern ship.

Wärtsilä has captured a 30 per cent of the world's cruise ship market, and has built 60 per cent of all ice-breakers since the Second World War.

It also leads in Arctic offshore technology, which Finnish shipbuilders see as their long term saviour. Roughly half of its current order book is for special vessels for Arctic conditions.

In the beginning of 1983 the company inaugurated a new Arctic research centre for the study of the way in which vessels and offshore constructions behave in icy conditions. The centre's equipment includes the world's largest model test basin, and it carries out work for state research institutes as well as for other Finnish shipyards and organizations.

Wärtsilä's former ice-breaking laboratory, built in 1969, was the first of its kind in the Western world.

In January this year Wärtsilä established an Arctic technology company in North America. Wärtsilä Arctic Inc. (WAI) will spearhead a new attempt to penetrate the North American markets. So far Finland has been unable to sell ice-breakers to the U.S. because of congressional pressure for local orders and because ice-breakers are run by the coast guard.

In inaugurating WAI, Mr. Tor Stole, president of Wärtsilä, pointed out that the exploitation of energy resources in both the Canadian and U.S. Arctic is under way even though the timing of operations is still in doubt. Wärtsilä is taking a

long-term view of this development. Other companies, such as the state-owned Valmet and Rauma-Repola, a private concern which used to be a main supplier of oil rigs but has lately encountered difficulties, have set their sights on off-shore arctic vessels.

Specialization has meant that Finnish yards have completely abandoned the idea of building ordinary ships in competition with the Japanese and South Koreans. All leading managers say flatly that there is no future for European companies in this field. One important aspect in the survival and profitability of leading yards is the fact that they have had to get along without state subsidies. This meant that the yards were compelled to modernize and trim their operations at a time when most of their European rivals were featherbedded by the state. Almost all West European countries have since decided that subsidies are in the long run a bad thing.

OK

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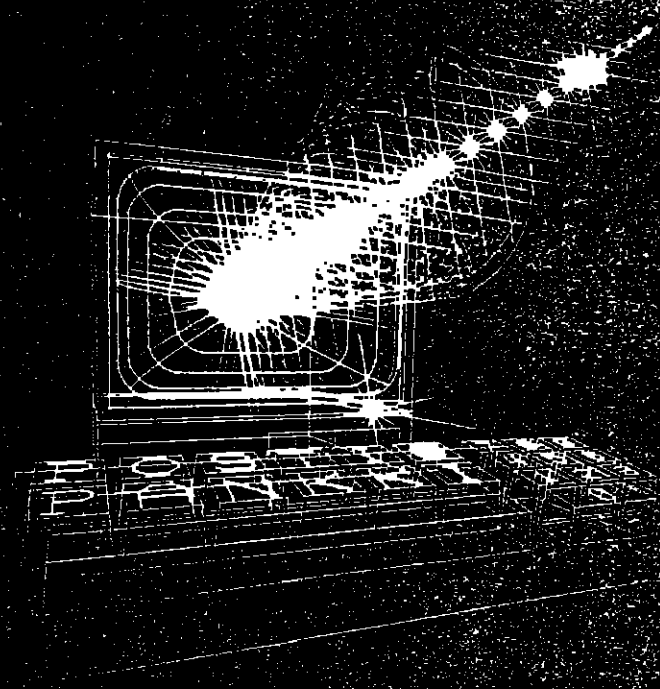
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FINLAND

ANGLO-FINNISH HISTORY

The bishop who lost his head



Britain's first recorded connection with Finland goes back to the middle of the 12th century when the English-born Bishop Henry had his head cut off. Henry was bishop of Upsala, in Sweden, and led the first crusade to convert the heathen Finns to Christianity. He was accompanied by a fellow countryman, Nicholas Breakpear, whom the Pope is said to have sent as a delegate to Sweden, and Saint Eric, King of Sweden.

Eric set about conquering as much of Finland as he could and later returned home across the Baltic. He left Bishop Henry behind to baptise the converted, which he did with zealous enthusiasm, founding many churches at the same time. However he admonished one Lalli, immortalized in Finnish folklore, for not keeping to the straight and narrow. Lalli, like many of his countrymen, did not take kindly to outside criticism - and cut off the bishop's head.

Bishop Henry, now martyred, became Finland's patron saint. His remains were buried in 1300 in the cathedral church at Turku, which was dedicated to him.

Early days of salvage

Several hundred years elapsed before any other Briton ventured to Finland. One was Robert Fithie, the first of several Scotsmen to leave their mark in the country. He was an opportunist seaman who founded a diving and salvage company at Turku, as many ships were wrecked on the passage from Sweden through the treacherous channels of the archipelago.

He stationed watchmen on the islands to look out for casualties. On one of the islands, Korpo, half way between Turku and the open sea was a store of wrecking equipment including "longs with three to eight claws, canon-tongs, derricks, saws, breaking blocks, salt and ballast scoops." Fithie, and his son, were not too particular about the ships they "salvaged." Perhaps in penance for his riches, he built one of the first Finnish lighthouses on the island Utö among the dangerous skerries in 1753. (U16)

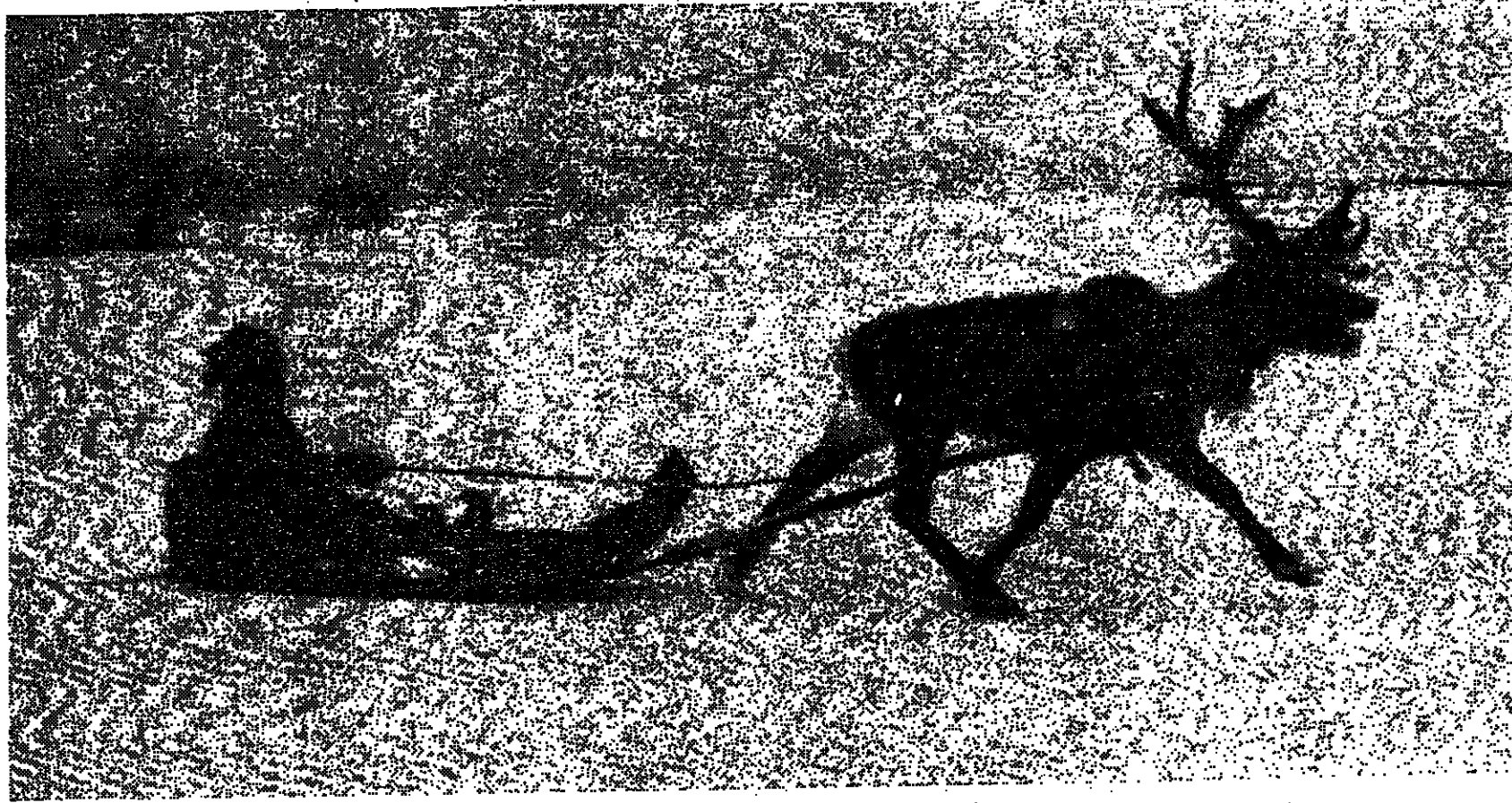
figured in the news again when the Russians demanded it as a naval base after signing a peace treaty with Finland at the end of the Continuation War in 1944). Other Scotsmen with a canny eye for a quick markka, were soon to follow Fithie's footsteps as Britain's industrial revolution got underway and the first trade links between the country were forged. The most famous of all was James Finlayson, a mechanical engineer born in Glasgow in 1771. Finlayson laid the foundations for Finland's own mini-industrial revolution. He specialised in installing and improving textile machinery. He had been working in St Petersburg (now Leningrad) in 1809 the Czar annexed Finland as a Grand Duchy, when he was attracted by the possibilities of founding a water-powered engineering works at Tampere. In 1821, later he built a cotton mill (the mill took Finlayson's name) which was to herald Finland's industrial revolution.

It changed hands and Finlayson remained for some time as technical adviser before returning to Scotland. John Barker, an Englishman who had been working in Liege with the cotton machinery company, Charles James and John Cocke, took Finlayson's place. The mill grew rapidly and became one of the largest in Northern Europe. Tampere attracted other industrial enterprises and became known as the "Manchester of the North." Tampere also produced millions of wooden cotton reels for the Lancashire textile trade. Today Finland annually exports some Frmk. 260m worth of textiles to Britain.

Cowie was joined by fellow Scotsman William Crichton one time chief engineer of the Russian Navy's works in St Petersburg, who later bought Cowie out and established William Crichton and Co., shipbuilders and engineers. Crichton collaborated with a neighbouring yard started by the Scottish salvager Fithie.

Another Briton, John Edward Eager, who had been working for the Russian Navy, took over the expanded group in 1889. With their inside knowledge of the Russian Navy, Crichtons were able to establish a strong export trade for various kinds of vessels. In due course this company became Wärtsilä, now Finland's leading shipbuilder.

Michael Frenchman



HOLIDAYS IN FINLAND

Watch out for the reindeer

To stand with one foot above the Arctic Circle and the other below it at the height of August in Rovaniemi was as incongruous as the herds of reindeer which caused us to halt our car frequently on the road northwards.

Once you leave Kuusamo, about 80 miles south of Rovaniemi, the capital of Arctic Lapland, the reindeer are as common as ponies in the New Forest or on Dartmoor, while road signs warn you to watch out for "crossing elks".

Lapland in summer is a place in which to hike across the fells, fish in the white-water rivers, pan for gold (the world gold-panning championships are held every year at Tankarvaari near Ivalo), or simply enjoy the unspoiled wilderness and the never-ending daylight.

During the months of June, July and August, the sun lingers in the sky practically the whole night. However, in winter it scarcely climbs above the tree line. Everything is white and still, and the temperature can fall as low as minus 45 degrees Centigrade.

Finland is ideal for a driving holiday. After the crowded roads of Britain and Western Europe the long undulating traffic-free roads of central and northern Finland make driving a pleasure. There are plenty of hotels and places to stay at, from luxury hotels like the Rantasipi Pohjanhovi in Rovaniemi to more humble student accommodation in several of the provincial towns. Many of the latter, usually known as

"summer hotels", are used by tourists when the universities and colleges are closed for the long summer vacations.

Costs vary from as much as \$45 or more to £20 a night for double room and breakfast. Many of the better class hotels also include a free sauna and use of swimming-pool in the price. There are often good inclusive prices for weekend stays. This helps keep down costs in a country where they tend to be high.

The Finnish tourist board is trying to make visitors more aware of parts of Finland other than those areas in the south around Helsinki and the beautiful south-west archipelago. The 20,000 or so islands of that archipelago, which lies between the tip of Finland near the port of Hanko and the Åland Islands, make up one of the finest sailing grounds in the world.

Water - there are more than 60,000 lakes - is never far away from you. And some of the lakeside towns are a sharp contrast to the bustling cities of the south. Take, for instance, Kuopio by the south. Lake, for instance, Kuopio by the shores of Lake Kallavesi, which forms one of the principal waterways in central Finland. The central market square is a blaze of colour in the mornings when a myriad of flowers and scrubbed pristine vegetables go on display.

The markets in Finland are a national attraction in themselves, with every carrot or onion seemingly

handpicked (which may account for the prices.)

There are boxes of raspberries, cloudberries, redcurrants and a host of other berries - not to mention fresh peas, which the Finns buy in little paper bags to munch in the sunshine.

Kuopio, with its cathedral, its superb public library (the Finns are among the most avid readers in Europe), and old wooden buildings down by the harbour, is a fine spot to spend a few days.

It is one of the main departure points for an extensive network of lake cruises by rattling old steam puffers and other cruise ships.

One of the most attractive parts of the lake area is Savonlinna near the eastern border with the Soviet Union in the south-east. The town which straddles the narrows of Lake Saimaa is best known for its castle, built in 1475, where summer music festivals are held each year.

A short distance outside Savonlinna is Raahelima, which can be reached by boat or car. There it is possible to stay in a most unusual guesthouse - a former Russian hunting lodge entirely of wood. The lodge stands on a bluff covered by pinewoods and overlooks the lake below. With only half a dozen rooms, it is a wooden extravaganza with a mass of intricate cut-out designs, balustrades and towers.

To the south-east of Savonlinna, the main terminus for much of the lake

traffic as well as the gateway to the Saimaa canal which, passing through Soviet territory, connects the lake system with the Gulf of Finland, is the Pankaharja ridge. This is a narrow chain of islets joined by natural and manmade causeways through the lake. It is a famous beauty spot and site of the Valdionhotelli, an elegant wooden building and one of the first tourist hotels established in the country.

Here a collection of nineteenth century houses, including a great lodge, the Bomba house, have been brought together by the lakeside to make up a holiday complex. Guests can stay in some of the original old houses or in new log cabins.

Any town of any size seems to have a folk and farm museum. Some, like the one outside Rovaniemi, are more interesting than others. In addition the city has a unique Lap museum with excellent displays of Lap culture and history from ancient times to the present day. One can trace the impact of modern life on the migrant Laps and changes in their life style due to the introduction of the snowmobile - a petrol engine-driven scooter for use on snow which to a large extent had replaced men on skis for reindeer round-ups.

MF

For further holiday information write to: Finnish Tourist Board, 66/68 Haymarket, London SW1Y 4RF.

WILDLIFE

Protecting the big bad wolf

The old myth describing Helsinki as the only capital in the world where wolves stroll in the streets may yet become true as stringent conservation measures lead to dramatic increases in the number of these big predators.

Scientists do not want to reveal exactly how many wolves there are, because even the published estimates have led to a certain amount of hysteria, especially in some rural areas, where children are not allowed to walk to school.

Hunters' organizations feed this hysteria, as they see wolves as competitors. They have requested and received some shooting permits, but the wolves have been smarter and avoided the hunters, much to the amusement of the public, which supports underdogs against greedy hunters.

Many scientists maintain that the authorities overreacted when they granted even a small number of killing permits in areas where wolf packs were reported to have been sighted. Specialists say that the wolves have not yet had time to establish permanent stocks, which is the aim of present policies.

Wolves were hunted to near extinction in the 1960s, but an important change of public opinion took place in 1972, when hunters made themselves the laughing stock of the country by conducting a huge, mechanized operation against a single wolf.

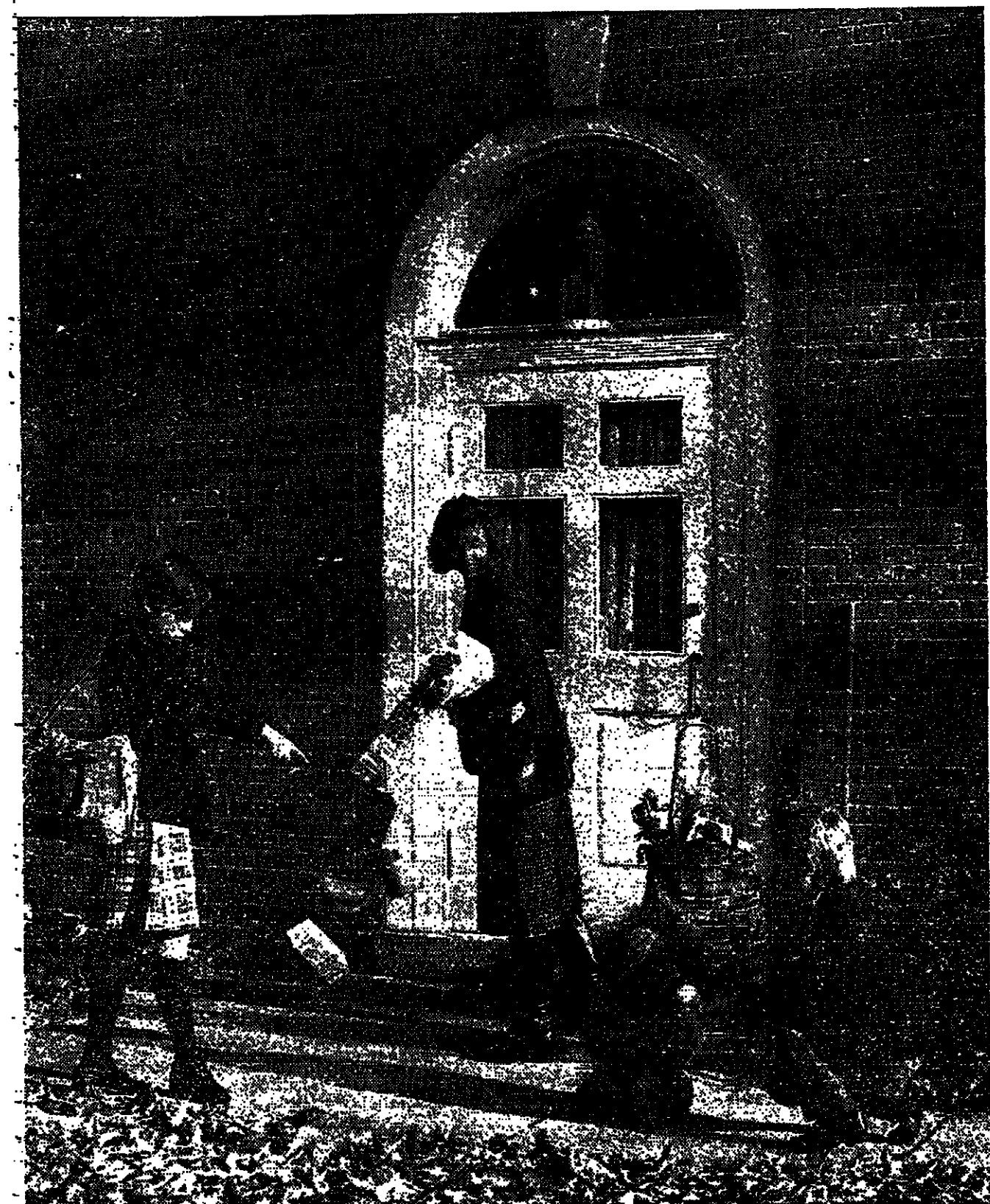
Wolves were put under protection, and it is now estimated that their numbers have risen rapidly to around 200. Wolves have been sighted only miles from Helsinki's centre, and they are adapting to modern life, which offers ample food in the form of rubbish tips, pet dogs and numerous protected elk and deer.

Mr Erkki Pulliainen, Professor of Zoology at the University of Oulu and the best known wolf expert in the country, denies that the number of wolves is growing at an explosive speed.

Professor Pulliainen, who has, among other things, lived in a wolf's lair, is adamant that wolves are harmless to people. He also estimates that Finland's wolves eat about 1,000 elk a year, which represents only one-fifth of the annual elk killing permits granted to hunters.

OK

SHE HAS SOMETHING IN COMMON WITH HIM EVEN THOUGH SHE DOESN'T KNOW IT.



A hurried housewife arriving home from the market with her children is completely unaware that thousands of miles away a scientist in his laboratory is constantly thinking of her. Nor does she have any idea that they have something very much in common. There is a link between her and this man.

What links these two people, although thousands of miles apart, is Enso. Or, more precisely, the liquid packaging boards manufactured by Enso, used to pack thousands of millions of litres yearly of milk, fruit juice, wine, water, etc.

Enso is one of the world's foremost suppliers of boards for daily use - today, more and more people handle Enso boards without thinking about it. And that's the way we want it.

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Our Enso researcher, as well as his 100 colleagues, take pride in their work. They care. And know that Enso has been in the business of researching, developing and manufacturing liquid packaging boards for more than a quarter of a century.

The result... our innovative, high quality board introduced to the market every year, makes Enso boards the perfect solution for those manufacturers who package liquid products, and, of course, for the consumer.

The truth is our researchers care about the consumer - that it is all the hurried housewives and husbands of the world. It says a great deal about Enso as a company, and that's why we are prepared to do much more than manufacture and sell solid boards, fine papers, laminating papers, newsprint, sawn timber, plywood, prefabricated houses and machinery and equipment for the pulp and paper industry.

This is just a part of the Enso story. We are interested in further cooperation with our clients to develop far-reaching solutions - for your benefit and the benefit of your customers.

As a matter of fact, if you believe that your company has something in common with ours, the next step is to contact us. At Enso we feel strongly that our business is helping yours - and like to prove it.



Enso-Gutzeit Oy, Liquid Packaging Boards,
Savonlinna 1 P.O. Box 309, SF-00101 Helsinki, Finland
Call +358-0-16291, Telex 121438 enso sf.
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CRICKET: ENGLAND GIVEN TASTE OF GRUELLING TOUR AHEAD

Edmonds runs doggedly into form

From Richard Streeton, Jaipur

England, with eight newcomers in their ranks, had just the sort of harsh preparation for cricket in India that they needed yesterday when their tour finally got under way. All dourness and attrition that makes the three-day game in this country a trial for patience, as much as skill, was provided by the President's XI. They reached 188 for five wickets by the close after being put in to bat, with the Test batsman, Ashok Malhotra, staying four hours and a half for his 94 not out.

In gruelling sunshine, England bowled with commendable accuracy and grit, they also fulfilled the requisite over rate. Most important of all, Edmonds, in a personal make or break situation, bowled 23 consecutive overs for 35 runs before tea and his approach run problems seemed virtually cured. There was the occasional moment of hesitancy but the worst, one likes to think, is behind him. Edmonds continues to have no trouble actually delivering the ball and bowled with consistent guile.

A meagre 1,500 spectators were present at this unusual ground, many of them on complimentary tickets from local business houses, and the crowd, apparently, would have been 10 times as large for a limited-overs international. It is a vast open ground with an imposing two-tier pink and white pavilion with cupolas at each end, stretching the full length along one side. Perched on top of distant hills, on two other sides, are massive old forts. The pitch, it need hardly be said, was lifeless, albeit with more grass than many that will be met in the coming season.

Allott kept the better line but Cowans looked the faster of England's new-ball attack and it was the Middlesex man, with wickets in successive overs, who gave England an encouraging start. Padam Shastri was tempted by a lifting ball outside the off stump and held at first slip; Ashwaruddin played across a yorker. Cuckfield settled into his own unorthodox style before he attempted to grow a ball from Ellison off his legs in the twenty-fourth over and gave a catch to short midwicket.

This brought in Gursharan



Flying start: Cowans, who took two wickets in successive overs

Singh, who, three years ago to the very day, marked his first-class debut against England at Poona with a century, when aged only 18. Gursharan went to West Indies with India last year, without playing in any Tests, and has not quite made the progress which was hoped. He survived a chance to go over at second slip off Allott when seven but occasionally made some attractive shots to the on-side as he and Malhotra added 83 in 35 overs.

Edmonds finally separated the fourth wicket pair when he bowled Gursharan's forward defensive stroke in the last over before tea. Afterwards Malhotra made his first positive hit for

some time when he pulled Marks for six. Edmonds took a second wicket when he returned for a later spell and Muddani gave a catch to forward short leg via his pads.

Kiran More, a promising wicketkeeper, stayed through the final 25 minutes, though he survived a confident leg before appeal from Gatting just before the end. The adjudicating umpire was Swaroop Kishan, the general 19-stoner, who became familiar to British television watchers in the 1981-82 series.

Malhotra, who batted through 70 overs, was six short of his hundred by the end. He has an effective square cut and

hook, and hit 13 fours, but ideally he should have attempted to score more quickly. Cricket in India, though, is different, as England's newcomers today learnt.

PHYSICIAN'S XI, FIRST INNINGS
A D Gifford & Gower D Ellison
P Shastri & Gaurang D Cowans
Ashwaruddin & Cuckfield
A Malhotra not out
Gursharan Singh & Edmonds
S Muddani & Cuckfield D Edmonds
K S More not out
Extras (bat)
Total (5 wickets) 188
FALL OF WICKETS: 1-18, 2-28, 3-44, 4-127, 5-155, 6-178, 7-188, 8-190
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Elizabeth Jones lost by the same margin to the Irish efficient Patricia Ry, while Sally Keever had a day to forget against Virginia Paquet, losing 1-6, 6-1, 6-3. The French girl had seemed far too slow and unwieldy to be a match for the middle-order batsmen. Miss Keever, but, after a sound first test, the Briton appeared to lose concentration.

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Fibak turns tables on Amritraj

Antwerp (Agence) - Wojtek Fibak, of Poland, earned a second round match against the No 3 seed, Andres Gomez, of Ecuador, after coming from behind to beat India's Vijay Amritraj on the opening day of the European Championships tournament here on Monday. Fibak won the first round match 2-6, 6-3, 6-0 in just over an hour and a half. Amritraj is one of only two players to have beaten the world No 1, John McEnroe, this year.

In other matches, Libor Pimek, of Czechoslovakia had an easy 6-1, 6-1 win over Memo Costing, of the Netherlands. Juan Antonio of Spain, beat the Belgian, Karel De Maessene, 7-5, 6-4. Another Belgian, Bernard Boileau, was warned by the umpire and drew a double fault after hitting a ball into the crowd when Michael Westphal broke his serve at 7-7 in the decisive third set. The West German, aged 19, went on to win the first round match, 6-4, 2-6, 6-7.

Prakash Krishnan, of India, advanced to the second round by beating Heinz Günthardt, of Switzerland, 7-6, 6-1. Krishnan needed a closely-fought 7-5 tiebreak to win the first set, and cruised effortlessly to a second set victory. Krishnan will play France's Yannick Noah, the No 7 seed, in the next round.

Aaron Krickstein, of the United States, who was injured while winning the Geneva grand prix event in September, has dropped out of this event.

The final is scheduled for Sunday, with the winner receiving £160,000 and the loser £104,000.

LTA name top coach

Charlie Applewhite has been appointed as the new coaching coordinator for the Lawn Tennis Association. Applewhite, 44, currently national coach and development groups on coaching at the LTA. He said: "This is an extremely challenging position and an opportunity to help British coaches, who are committed to the game and to improving standards. Coaches will now have a direct link with the LTA policy decisions."

CAPE TOWN: Four-teen men's tournament: singles: E Edwards (SA) 6-4, 6-3, 6-4 (A.P. Gower (NZ) 6-4, 6-3, 6-4; Doubles: D Gower (NZ) & C Gower (NZ) 6-4, 6-3, 6-4 (J. K. J. & G. M. 6-4, 6-3, 6-4)

BRISBANE: Women's Grasscourt Championships: Second round: W Turnbull (AUS) 6-1, 6-0 (AUS) 7-5, 6-3; B Bunge (NG) 6-1, 6-0 (AUS) 7-5, 6-3

ATP NEWS WORLD RANKINGS: 1. McEnroe (US); 2. Lendl (US); 3. J. Connors (US); 4. W. R. (US); 5. A. Gomez (EC); 6. A. Ljajic (YU); 7. M. Costing (NL); 8. V. Amritraj (IN); 9. J. K. J. (US); 10. J. A. (US)

GRAND PRIX STANDINGS: 1. McEnroe 3,363; 2. Connors 2,529; 3. Lendl 2,529; 4. J. Connors 2,529; 5. A. Gomez 1,254; 6. W. R. 1,216; 7. M. Costing 1,188; 8. V. Amritraj 1,188; 9. J. K. J. 1,188; 10. J. A. 1,188

WTA WOMEN'S WORLD RANKINGS: 1. M. Navratilova (CZ); 2. C. Lloyd (US); 3. P. Shriver (US); 4. W. R. (US); 5. M. Navratilova (CZ); 6. W. R. (US); 7. M. Navratilova (CZ); 8. W. R. (US); 9. M. Navratilova (CZ); 10. W. R. (US)

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TENNIS

Miss Wood shines on bad day for Britons

By Lewine Mair

After five British girls had lost in rapid succession on the second day of the LTA's women's \$10,000 event at Telford, it came as something of a relief to learn that the two home players who had still to take the court - Clare Wood and Lorraine Grace - were up against each other.

Miss Wood, not a particularly good game early on, but Miss Grace who, like Miss Wood, had been given a wild entry card into this event, played with great heart to come from 0-3 in the final set to win the match 7-5, 6-6, 7-5.

Shelley Walpole, the second seed, was the first Briton to fall yesterday morning, going down 6-7, 2-6, to Holly Danforth, a 15-year-old American.

Miss Walpole did nothing badly wrong. However, she looks hopelessly short of confidence at present, and the last thing she needed by way of an opponent was an up-and-coming 15-year-old still madly oblivious to the pressures of it all.

Miss Danforth, the youngest competitor, now meets the oldest, Marie Pinterova, a 38-year-old mother of an eight-year-old son. Yesterday she put out the former Wightman Cup player, Glynis Coles, 6-4, 7-6.

In 1972 Marie Pinterova had a win to remember over Billie Jean King. She is back playing now following the sudden and unexpected disappearance of a particularly painful tennis elbow which was with her for over two years.

Jane Wood of Middlesex, was the third British player to go out. Though she had beaten Marianna Gavrilova, a 15-year-old, in a qualifying competition, she yesterday had one of her wilder matches and went down 2-6, 2-6.

Elizabeth Jones lost by the same margin to the Irish efficient Patricia Ry, while Sally Keever had a day to forget against Virginia Paquet, losing 1-6, 6-1, 6-3. The French girl had seemed far too slow and unwieldy to be a match for the middle-order batsmen.

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Elizabeth Jones lost by the same margin to the Irish efficient Patricia Ry, while Sally Keever had a day to forget against Virginia Paquet, losing 1-6, 6-1, 6-3. The French girl had seemed far too slow and unwieldy to be a match for the middle-order batsmen.

RESULTS: Second round: (N) unless stated: V 10-0-0-0; S 1-0-0-0; A 1-0-0-0; G 1-0-0-0; J 1-0-0-0; W 1-0-0-0; L 1-0-0-0; B 1-0-0-0; C 1-0-0-0; D 1-0-0-0; E 1-0-0-0; F 1-0-0-0; H 1-0-0-0; I 1-0-0-0; K 1-0-0-0; M 1-0-0-0; N 1-0-0-0; O 1-0-0-0; P 1-0-0-0; Q 1-0-0-0; R 1-0-0-0; S 1-0-0-0; T 1-0-0-0; U 1-0-0-0; V 1-0-0-0; W 1-0-0-0; X 1-0-0-0; Y 1-0-0-0; Z 1-0-0-0

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-18, 2-28, 3-44, 4-127, 5-155, 6-178, 7-188, 8-190
BOWLING: (no ball) Cowans 12-4-28-2; Allott 11-2-20-0; Ellison 14-3-42-1; Edmonds 30-6-48-2; Muddani 15-3-41-0; Gatting 1-0-0-0
ENGLAND: D J Gower, G Fowler, R T Robinson, M W Gatting, C S Coward, R M Ellison, V J Marks, P H Edmonds, N R French, P J W Alcott, N G Gower

RUGBY UNION

North wind blows to deposit Carleton in the cold

By David Hands, Rugby Correspondent

A wind of change has blown through the Northern Division since they last played the New Zealanders a year ago. The North's back division, with the promising Andrew at stand-off half instead of Old, was no White or Winterbottom among the forwards.

Several of the omissions can be explained instantly: Winterbottom has not played for several weeks because of a strained groin, and Smith and Bond have receded from the representative scene, as has White after his Indian summer last season. But the absence of Carleton suggests that his international place is under threat.

Carleton won his 26th cap against Australia earlier this week, a match which hinted that the attacking qualities of the 28-year-old Cornhill were still in evidence, hardly surprising given his absence of possession - although his defensive attributes remain unimpaired. He has been superseded in the North

team by Harrison, the Wakefield wing, whose exceptional pace has taken him to the verge of high honours during the past two seasons. With two exceptions, it is Yorkshire's back division, with the promising Andrew at stand-off half instead of Old, was no White or Winterbottom among the forwards.

Bainbridge, unavailable for England this season because of his sending off in a club match in September, has been picked for the second row, although he does not resume money until this weekend after completing a two-month suspension. He partners Syddall.

Curry, the Goshford prop, is only just recovering from serious test problems. Hartlepool policeman who played against the RFU President's XV in September, is at tight head in a pack that has an interesting back row. It comprises Moss, the full Cornhill flanker, Simpson, the Bath No 8, capped twice last season as a

blind side flanker, and Buckton, the highly rated Liverpool flanker. Another prop forward who has missed the start of the season through injury, Blackwell, has withdrawn from Major Stanley's XV to play Oxford University on November 21, but he expects to play his first game in Gloucester's colours, on December 1.

NORTHAMPTON: (V) Australia, November 21: D Bond (West Hartlepool), Harrison (Wakefield), K. Smith (Cardiff), L. Smith (Cardiff), R. Andrew (Cardiff), M. Moss (Wigan), C. Curry (Goshford), P. Harrison (Wakefield), A. Syddall (Wakefield), S

RACING: HENNESSY HOPE OBSERVE GIVES FRANCOISE ANOTHER TAXING RIDE

Hazy Sunset to shine in new role

By Mandarin

Hazy Sunset, who has the pedigree and scope to go right to the top of the National Hunt tree, can make a winning debut over fences in the Hallowes Novices' Chase at Newbury this afternoon (2.0).

Fred Winter has always held a high opinion of Hazy Sunset, but he has been disappointed several times in the past before coming good at Lingfield Park in mid-March. He showed further improvement to beat the Catchpool and Penny Bank in a valuable Ascot hurdle and completed the treble with an easy Cheltenham success.

However, being by Menelek, out of an Arctic Slave mare, Hazy Sunset's future has always seemed likely to be over fences. With Buckbe an overnight defector, the seven-year-old does not face too demanding a task here and only the unreliable Connought River can be considered a serious rival.

Connought River has considerable experience over fences and finished last season on a high note when chasing home The Mighty Mac in the Cathcart Challenge Cup at the Cheltenham Festival. However, the overall level of his form is some way below that and as he has refused to race on more than one occasion, he is certainly not one to trust.

Abo Ace and Ivacore are capable of winning in lesser company, but neither can be mentioned in the same breath as Hazy Sunset, who should develop into one of the season's top chasing recruits.

Super Grass, who finished second to Hazy Sunset at Cheltenham in April, makes his seasonal reappearance in the first division of the Hallowes Novices Hurdle (1.0) and is a tentative choice in what should prove a most informative race.

Fred Winter, who won both divisions of this race last year, runs Broolin, a half-brother to Brown Chamberlain, who also won a division of this race in 1980. Fulke Walwyn saddles Ten Plus in preference to his promising Ascot third, The Argonaut, and Mercy Rimell gives Gals's Image, winner of last year's Hallowes Novices, his first taste of hurdling.

The second division of the novice hurdle looks slightly less competitive and Nassau Royale, another with winning form in an Irish bumper race, may prove good enough. He is sure to have been well schooled by Mrs Rimell.



Hazy Sunset, on the way to victory over hurdles at Lingfield Park last season

The two handicap chases have cut up badly and should now present winning opportunities for Knock Hill (1.30) and Buck And Wing (3.0).

Kelso bookmakers are unlikely to chalk up any prices on the Flat last year but was harshly defeated by the handicapper thereafter as the horses he beat were Nepula, a subsequent group race winner, and Double Schwartz, who developed into an above-average sprinter.

Freeflow was a comfortable winner of his only race over hurdles at Southwell in September. Richards has bypassed several tempting engagements in the south to wait for this race.

All but 1lb of Freeflow's penalty is offset by the claim of John Hansen and the combination of a confident choice to beat Bickerstaffe and his stable companion, Surfing Era.

Chase at Haydock, looks more than capable of conceding a stone all round.

My idea of the day's best bet is Freeflow in the Scottish Hurdle (2.45). Gordon Richards's three-year-old was the Flat last year but was harshly defeated by the handicapper thereafter as the horses he beat were Nepula, a subsequent group race winner, and Double Schwartz, who developed into an above-average sprinter.

Freeflow was a comfortable winner of his only race over hurdles at Southwell in September.

Princess Tracy stays behind

Michael Cunningham, the Irish trainer, had decided to leave his Breckers' Cup Sprint fifth, Princess Tracy, at Hollywood Park to run in the National Sprint Championship, over six furlongs (grade three, on dirt) on December 1.

Cunningham said: "I was delighted with the way Princess Tracy ran in the Breckers' Cup Sprint last

Saturday and I think she would have been closer than fifth had she not had to travel so far. She still picked up \$50,000 for her owners.

"I think she will go very close in the National Sprint, where she will be ridden by Ray Carroll, our travelling head and work jockey."

Princess Tracy stays behind

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A perfect warm-up for Gaye Chance

The Hennessy Gold Cup was one of the few important jumping prizes to elude the late Fred Rimell. However, his widow, Mercy, has a leading contender for the big Newbury chase in 10 days time in Gaye Chance.

The former top-class staying hurdler enjoyed an ideal warm-up for Newbury when giving a flawless jumping exhibition in the Opella Tap Chase at Hereford. The 5-1 on favourite had little more than an exercise canter, taking the lead at the end and coming away to win by three lengths.

Gaye Chance has been allocated 10st 10lb for Newbury, 4lb less than last year when he ran runner up to Brown Chamberlain, beaten 10 lengths. He is quoted at 12-1 by Coral.

Mrs Rimell said: "I could not be more pleased, this is just what we wanted - a nice easy race over fences. I have needed the exercise before last year's Hennessy - I had hoped to run him beforehand at Chesham but he was stung by a bee and we pulled him out of the race."

Another horse on trial for the Hennessy yesterday was Observe, who started at 7-2 on for the Magnetopulse Duchy of Cornwall Cup at Devon and Exeter. Observe, a horse who has been in the more problems than most, landed the odds as expected, but he made hard work of it and certainly did not win as an odds-on favourite.

The favourite made virtually all the running but persistently jumped sharply left on this right-hand course. Suddenly Eddie Whetnam, the amateur rider, was throwing his weight about and the horse looked like being beaten. Francoise did not to the whip and roused the favourite to get home by a length.

Observe is unbeaten in both starts this season and Fred Winter, his trainer, confirmed that the horse would run unpenalized in the Hennessy.

Observe is a very sound and healthy horse but is always a problem because he's got a mind of his own. I've had the blinkers on him but they made no difference. He certainly makes John work for a chance.

"Observe never really shows me anything, but I've always felt that if he put his best foot forward he's as good as anything. There's no point in taking him to Kempton for the King George VI Chase, the course is the wrong way. But Newbury and Cheltenham are right for him."

Whetnam who goes to a dinner to receive the South West Racing Club's award, the trophy of the year next year, passed the time without weighing in after finishing second on Herr Capitan and his mount was disqualified.

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Law Report November 14 1984

Charity's part-time salesman is a pedlar not a collector

Murphy v Duke

Before Mr Justice Forbes
(Judgment delivered November 7)

A person who went from house to house on foot selling goods on behalf of a registered charity and who, while not wholly or predominantly obtaining his livelihood by that means, regularly supplemented his income from the commission received on goods sold, was to be regarded as carrying on the trade of a pedlar for the purposes of section 3(1) of the House to House Collections Act 1939.

The fact that part of the proceeds of sales were represented as being for the benefit of blind or disabled persons, did not render the sale a "collection" for the purposes of section 3(1) of the House to House Collections Act 1939.

Mr Justice Forbes, sitting in the Queen's Bench Division, allowed Mr Norman John Gary Murphy's appeal by case stated from the decision of Mr John Dyer, Chief Constable of Hampshire, who on April 3 refused his application for a pedlar's certificate.

Mr Peter Ralls for the applicant, Mr Christopher Clark for the chief constable.

MR JUSTICE FORBES said that the applicant was connected with a registered charity, the Incorporated Association for Promoting the General Welfare of the Blind, whose main aim was to provide employment for blind and partially sighted people. The association employed such people in the manufacture of soap and other toiletries which were sold commercially by house-to-house salesmen.

A brochure given to potential customers made it clear that the goods were being offered for sale on behalf of the association. Salesmen received about 60 per cent of the proceeds of sale, the remainder being received by the association.

The gross sales receipts for the financial year ending April 2, 1980 amounted to £782,000 of which the association received £345,557. It was an operation which was quite different from the collection of money for distribution among blind people.

On March 23, 1984, the applicant, who had been granted a

certificate in the past and who proposed to act as a salesman for the association, applied to the police for a pedlar's certificate. He hoped to earn about £10 per week.

His application was refused on the grounds (i) that since he did not expect to make his entire living from the proposed house-to-house sales he was not a "pedlar" within the meaning of section 3 of the House to House Collections Act 1939.

Pedlar Act 1871, nor was he carrying on a trade as a pedlar for the purposes of section 3(1) of the House to House Collections Act 1939. The fact that he was carrying on a trade as a pedlar for the purposes of section 3(1) of the House to House Collections Act 1939, constituted an offence under section 3(1) of the House to House Collections Act 1939 with the result that the applicant could not be said to be carrying on the trade of a pedlar "in good faith" as required by section 3(1).

Relying on *Gregg v Smith* (1873) LR 8 QB 302 the justices accepted the first of those reasons as a ground for dismissing the appeal.

Section 3 of the Pedlar's Act 1871 defined a "pedlar" as "any hawk, pedlar, petty chapman, tinkler, carrier of metals, mender of chairs, or other person who, without any horse or carriage, travels and trades on foot, and goes from town to town or to other men's houses carrying to sell or exposing for sale any goods, wares, or merchandise, or procuring orders for goods, wares, or merchandise, or selling or offering for sale his handiwork".

By section 3(1) a certificate had to be granted where the chief officer of police was satisfied that the applicant for a certificate intended to carry on the trade of a pedlar in good faith.

There was nothing in *Gregg v Smith* which said that to be a pedlar, or to carry on a trade as a pedlar, one had to obtain all or most of one's livelihood from peddling. An applicant had only to show that he derived some part of his living from regularly trading as a pedlar.

Although the justices had not based their decision on the chief constable's second reason for refusing the certificate, they had asked the court's opinion on the question whether it was necessary for persons such as the applicant to obtain a licence under the House to House Collections Act 1939.

Section 1(1) of the 1939 Act

Personal liberty subject to strict procedure

Gagnon v Macdonald

Where the courts were concerned with the liberty of the subject all provisions designed for his protection, such as calling upon him to show cause why he should not be committed, were to be strictly complied with. *Payne v Payne*, an unreported decision of the Court of Appeal of March 28, 1979, was authority for that proposition, if such authority was needed.

Sir John Donaldson, Master of the Rolls, with whom Lord Justice Oliver agreed, so stated on November 12 when the court allowed an appeal by the Official Solicitor on behalf of Mr Donald Robinson Macdonald from the order of Judge Stinson in Ipswich County Court on October 23 that Mr Macdonald be committed to two cells in the prison for 12 months for contempt of court. An order for his release was drawn up.

The MASTER OF THE ROLLS said that Mr Macdonald had failed to comply with various injunctive orders designed to prevent him from interfering with the sale of a house jointly owned by him and his former wife. Proceedings for his commitment had been started by a notice to him under the Matrimonial Causes Rules.

The notice failed to comply with Order 29, rule 1 (4) of the County Court Rules 1981 in two respects: (i) it was not issued by the "proper officer", who must be an officer of the court; and (ii) it failed to call upon him "to show cause why he should not be committed or be made against him".

The correct form, "Notice to show cause why Order of Commitment should be made" was Form N78 of the prescribed forms in the Schedule to the County Court (Forms) Rules (SI 1982 No 586, as amended by SI 1982 No 1441 and SI 1983 No 1715); see *The County Court Practice 1984*, pp 514, 594.

Lord Lane, Lord Chief Justice, sitting in the Court of Appeal with Mr Justice Otton on November 12, so stated when giving judgment dismissing an application by Keith Wanklyn, aged 27, for leave to appeal against conviction for causing offence under the Criminal Justice Act 1967.

The LORD CHIEF JUSTICE said that the application was rather less than meritorious - one hesitated to use the word frivolous - and their Lordships had been sorely tempted to order loss of time despite the fact that the application was made on counsel's advice.

On the present occasion loss of time could not be ordered but in future it was to be known that the fact that counsel might have advised the application would not prevent the Court of Appeal from ordering loss of time if the case was, in the court's view, one without any merit.

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The Bursar's Office is responsible for all matters of accommodation, furniture, catering and maintenance at the School, its Halls of Residence and the Sports Ground. We need an experienced secretary to take charge of this busy office, dealing with a variety of secretarial and administrative duties for the Bursar and an Administrative Officer.

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Today's television and radio programmes

Summaries by Peter Dear and Peter Davalle

17

BBC 1

- 6.00** **Cee-fax AM**
6.30 **Breakfast Time** with Frank Bough and Selina Scott. News at 6.30, 7.00, 7.30, 8.00 and 8.30 with headlines on the quarter hours and at 8.55; sport at 6.40 and 7.40; regional news, weather and traffic at 6.45, 7.15, 7.45 and 8.15; programme choice at 8.55; a review of the morning newspapers at 7.18 and 8.18; horoscopes at 8.33; plus Mike Smith with the new Top Twenty.
- 9.00** **Lyn Marshall's Everyday Yoga**. Lesson three of the course designed to tone the body (r). **9.10** **The Yugoslav Way**. The first programme in the series about Yugoslavia in 1976 features Skopje, the capital of Macedonia (r). **9.40** **Cee-fax**. 10.30 **Play School** (r).
- 10.50** **Weather**. A magazine programme for news women. Today's edition includes a discussion between Farida Adibi and Shaheen Nawab on making children's clothes at home (15 Cee-fax).
- 12.30** **News Afternoon** with Richard Whitmore and Frances Coverdale. The weather prospects come from Jim Bacon. 12.57 **Regional News** (London and SE only). Financial report followed by news headlines with subtitles.
- 1.00** **Pebbles Mill** at One with guests. Kenny Ball and his Jazzmen, cookery expert Prue Leith and a look behind the scenes at the making of the BBC television series *On the Border*. 1.45 **Gran** (r). 1.50 **Stop-Got** (r). 2.00 **Blizzard's Wonderful Wooden Toys**. Richard Blizzard demonstrates his toy making skills (r).
- 2.45** **Film: Berlin Express** (1948) starring Marie Oberon, Robert Ryan and Paul Lukas. Post-Second World War thriller about a plot to prevent the unification of Germany. Directed by Bert Granat 3.48 **Regional News** (not London).
- 3.50** **Play School**, presented Liz Williams. 4.10 **SuperTed** and the Crystal Ball. 4.15 **Jackanory**. Peter Davison reads part three of *The Sheep-Pig*. 4.30 **Screen Test**. Two teams from Somerset and Cornwall in a test of character. 4.45 **John Craven's Newsround**.
- 5.00** **Play: Thief**, by Roger Parkes. Why should a 14-year-old boy take to stealing when his parents have given him everything he wanted? (r).
- 5.25** **The Good Life**. Comedy series set in rural Suburbia (r). 5.58 **Weather**.
- 6.00** **News** with Sue Lawley and Nicholas Witchell.
- 6.30** **London Plus**.
- 6.55** **Cartoon**.
- 7.00** **I've Got a Secret**, presented by Tom O'Connor. Jan Leeming, Chris Kelly, Annika Rice and Derek James try to discover the secrets of guests who include Peter Woods (Cee-fax).
- 7.35** **Sharon and Elsie**. A depressed Sharon is cheered by Elsie's plans for an exciting night out (r).
- 8.00** **Dallas**. Donna Krebs arrives at Ewing Oil intent on making her presence felt (Cee-fax).
- 8.50** **Points of View**. Barry Took with another selection of viewers' letters broadcast on behalf of the Liberal Party.
- 9.00** **A Party Political Broadcast** on behalf of the Liberal Party.
- 9.15** **News** with John Humphrys.
- 9.35** **In at the Deep End**. Chris Serle makes his Olympic singing debut (Cee-fax) (see Choice).
- 10.25** **Sportnight**, introduced by Harry Carpenter. Reports on the home countries efforts in today's World Cup football matches and a discussion on what is wrong with English cricket with Ian Botham, Bob Willis and Alec Bedser.
- 11.15** **We Got It Made**. American comedy series.
- 11.40** **News** headlines and weather.

TV-am

- 6.25** **Good Morning Britain**, presented by Anne Diamond and Nick Owen. News with Gordon Honeycombe at 6.25, 7.00, 7.30, 8.00, 8.30 and 9.00; sport at 6.39 and 7.37; guests, Roger Daltrey and Don MacLean, from 6.45; exercises at 6.48 and 9.20; Eve Pollard's gossip column at 8.34; The Who remember at 8.47; gardening advice from Roddy Llewellyn at 9.08.

ITV/London

- 9.25** **Thames news headlines**. 9.30 **For Schools**: designing and making a piece of jewellery. 9.47 **Metamorphosis**. 10.04 **Chemistry**: esterification. 10.21 **Understanding television**. 10.40 **Glacial ice in Switzerland**. 11.10 **A Day in the life of a market stallholder**. 11.22 **Canoing on the Canadian seaway**. 11.39 **How we used to live**.
- 12.00** **Red, Jane and Freddy** with a musical story for the young. 12.10 **Our Backyard**. Jean's surprise birthday party. 12.30 **The Sublimes**.
- 1.00** **News at One** with Leonard Parkin. 1.20 **Thames news**. 1.30 **World Cup Special**. Coverage of the all-Ireland football in Istanbul between Turkey and England.
- 3.00** **Take the High Road**. Drama on the Scottish highland estate of Glenmoriston. 3.28 **Thames news**. 3.30 **Sore and Daughters**. Love and high finance between the Palmer and Hamilton families.
- 4.00** **Red, Jane and Freddy**. A repeat of the programme shown at noon. 4.15 **Rub a Dub Dub**. A musical version of the nursery rhyme, 'It's Raining, It's Pouring'. 4.20 **Chish 'n' Pips**. Adventures of two garden gnomes. 4.45 **Murphy's Mole**. Drama serial about a football team. Part one. 5.15 **Blockbusters**. General knowledge quiz for teenagers.
- 5.45** **News**. 6.00 **Thames news**. 6.25 **Help! Viv Taylor** goes to talk to John Morris from the NCCL Advisory Committee about the Play Act.
- 6.35** **Crossroads**.
- 7.00** **Name That Tune**. Musical quiz presented by Lionel Blair.
- 7.30** **Coronation Street** (Oracle).
- 8.00** **This is Your Life**. Eamonn Andrews lies in wait to ambush unsuspecting worthy.
- 8.30** **Mike Yarwood** in *Persons*. Comedy impressions from the talented entertainer.
- 9.00** **Travelling Man**. Part two of the six-episode drama starring Leigh Lawson as Lomax, an ex-policeman, recently released from prison after serving a two year sentence, searching for his son. He sets up headquarters on a narrowboat but when he has to go to London his friend Andrea is the victim of a sadist who believes she knows the whereabouts of a lot of money that Lomax has supposed to have stashed away (Oracle).
- 10.00** **A Party Political Broadcast** on behalf of the Liberal Party.
- 10.10** **News** followed by Thames news headlines.
- 10.40** **Midweek Sports Special** presented by Steve Rider. Highlights of this afternoon's World Cup match in Istanbul between Turkey and England. Bobby Robson, straight from the airport, will be in the studio with his comments on his team's performance. Plus highlights of the other World Cup matches involving the home countries and a profile of the England manager, Michael Slater who are now out of the shadows of Torvill and Dean.
- 10.50** **Bette Midler - No Frills**. Songs and comedy from the outrageous American entertainer.
- 12.25** **Night Thoughts**.



Ian Charleson (left) and Malcolm Stoddard: BBC 2, 9.00 pm

I feared initially that Steven Berkoff's plundering of Shakespeare in *West* (Channel 4, 9.00pm) was an admission that he had looked into his own cupboard for inspiration and found it bare. He has taken the gang warfare from *Romeo and Juliet* as his starting point, retained enough of the Shakespearean metre to serve his purpose, and mixed in lines from half a dozen of the Bard's plays. But then, having got his tale of gang warfare in London in the 1580s into the right epic and poetic gear, he does what Shakespeare did and demonstrates his own skill for twisting familiar plot threads into startling new shapes. Electronic wizardry in the studio has added extra excitement to what must already have been an emotionally draining experience in the theatre.

CHOICE

IN AT THE DEEP END (BBC 1, 9.35pm) describes a head-on collision between opera houses and opera grand. The only injury, and it is very slight, is to professionalism. Recovery is immediate, however, because reporter Chris Serle, given the chance to appear on stage at the London Coliseum as an aged tenor in the English National Opera's production of Prokofiev's *The Gambler*, does it for one night only. His qualifications are hardly impressive: amateur drummer with a pub jazz band, and the occasional burst of *Won't You Come Home, Bill Bailey*. Yet, thanks to coaching and tips from the likes of Sir George Evans, Tito Gobbi, Georg Solti and Jonathan

Miller, Mr Serle eventually finds himself in the wings at the Coliseum, waiting to go on, and as ready as an operatic tiger ever will be.

THE GIFT (Radio 3, 7.00pm). Graham Swannell's play for two voices, is ostensibly about the state of heightened consciousness that impending death can produce. Thus, the gift of the title is not merely life but the exciting perception of living that a dying man bequeaths to the dull chum who goes to France with him on what is to be a last holiday. It takes a considerable writer simultaneously to juggle with agony and ecstasy, while also balancing life and death issues on his head. But Mr Swannell has done it, and very movingly too.

Peter Davalle

Lobos's Five Preludes (John Williams, guitar); Choro No 2 (Dimitri Chostakovitch, guitar); Brahms's No 6: *Grave* (Boris Berman, piano); Spring Quartet No 1 (Philharmonia Quartet).

10.00 **Orchestral Music: Britain and Walton**. Britain's Baroque for tenor, horn and strings (Pears/Tuckwell/Alston); Walton's Symphony No 2 (LSO Under Previn).

10.55 **Violin and Piano: Lawrence Wheeler** (violin) and Ruth Tomlinson (piano). Suite for violin and piano (arranged by Wheeler).

11.40 **Boulez conducts Bartok**. BBC Symphony Orchestra. Bartok's *The Miraculous Mandarin* (complete).

12.15 **Concert Hall: Lynnda Russell** (piano), with Andrew Ball (piano). Prokofiev's Five Piano Pieces Op 36; Strauss's Four Songs to poems by Brentano; 1.00 News.

new free verse translation of Chaucer's two poems *The Book of the Duchess*, and *The House of Fame*. Martin Jarvis is Chaucer. Music by Michael Berkeley.

11.00 **Manchester Chamber Concert**. Wolfgang Mauer (piano), Mozart's Fantasy in G minor, K. 475; Sonata in C minor, K. 457; Beethoven's Sonata in E minor, Op 90.

11.57 **News**. Until 12.00.

Radio 2

4.00pm **Coin Barry**. 1.30 **Ray Moore**. 7.30 **Terry Wogan**. Including 8.31 **Racing**. 10.00 **Russell Harty**. 11.00 **World Cup Soccer special**. (Turkey v England, 8.30pm; Brazil v Chile, 10.00pm; 1.45pm **Steve Jones** (continued from VHF). 2.00 **Gloria Hunniford** including 2.02, 3.02 **Sports Desk**. 3.30 **Musical Aid**. 4.00 **David Hamilton**. 6.00 **John Dunn** including 6.02 **Sports Desk**. 6.45 **Sport** and classified results (not only 6.00 **World Cup Soccer special**. Group seven: Scotland v Spain. Wales v Iceland. Group three: Northern Ireland v Finland. 10.00 **The Golden Hour**. 11.00 **Alan Keble**. 11.58 **Hubert Gregg** says Thanks for the Memory. 11.00 **Brian Matthews** presents *Midnight* (jazz trio from midnight). 11.58 **Bill Ramble** presents *Nightlife*. 1.30 **Broadway Babes**. 11. **Gwen Dwyer**. Presented by Sheridan Morley. 1.30-4.00 **Joan Savage** sings.

Radio 1

On medium wave. 1. denotes also VHF stereo. News on the half hour from 6.30 am until 3.00 pm and at 12 midnight. 6.00 am **Adrian John**. 7.00 **Mike Read**. 8.00 **Simon Bates**. 12.00 **John Peel**. 1.00 **Devis** including 12.30pm **Newsbeat**. 2.00 **Steve Wright**. 5.00 **Bruno Brookes** including 5.30pm **Newsbeat**. 7.30 **John Long**. 10.00 **John Peel**. 11.00 **News**. Radio 1 & 2 4.00 with Radio 2. 12.00 **Steve Jones** including 1.00pm **Sports Desk**. 1.45 **World Radio**. 2.00 **The Spinners and Friends** (special guest Cy Grant). 8.30 **Frank Chacksfield** and his Orchestra brings you The Splendour of Strings. 8.15 **Keith** to the Band. Charlie Chester and the Jones and Grosland Band. 9.55 **Sports Desk**. 10.00 **With Radio 1**. 12.00-4.00 am **With Radio 2**.

WORLD SERVICE

6.00 **Newsweek**. 7.00 **World News**. 7.30 **Twenty-Four Hours**. 7.30 **Report on Religion**. 7.45 **That's That**. 8.00 **World News**. 8.08 **Reflections**. 8.15 **Classical Record**. 8.30 **The First Chorus**. 8.00 **World News**. 8.08 **Review of the British Press**. 8.15 **The World Today**. 8.30 **World News**. 8.40 **Look Ahead**. 8.45 **The Brotherhood of Brass**. 10.00 **News Summary**. 10.01 **Submarine**. 10.06 **Music**. 11.00 **World News**. 11.00 **News**. 11.15 **Images of Britain**. 12.00 **Radio Newsweek**. 12.15 **Newsweek**. 12.25 **The World Today**. 12.30 **World News**. 1.00 **World News**. 1.09 **Twenty-Four Hours**. 1.30 **The Ideal Case**. 2.00 **Outlook**. 2.05 **Report on Religion**. 2.10 **Radio News**. 2.15 **World News**. 2.30 **Steps and Son**. 4.00 **World News**. 4.09 **Contemporary**. 4.15 **Rock School**. 4.45 **The World Today**. 5.00 **World News**. 5.08 **Monitor**. 5.00 **World News**. 5.15 **International Soccer Special**. 10.00 **World 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